

Reviews of *The Circle Program*

The Circle Program is a language development program for the primary level (kindergarten to grade 3), especially for Native children who enter school speaking a Native language. It has been used in other teaching situations with speakers of a language other than English.

In an article in this issue, Dr. Len Zarry cites this program as useful for inclusion in a whole language approach in Native classrooms. The publisher's information that describes the Circle Program says that

the curriculum has a strong visual-to-audio approach. ... It is strong on the whole word/sight reading method with phonics appearing in sound context. The sounds are primarily taught within the context of spelling patterns. The patterned spelling is accomplished through rhymes, poetry, and songs. The cloze procedure is frequently used.

—From *The CIRCLE Program Philosophy*, Fitzhenry & Whiteside

The program consists of sets of books, workbooks, teaching pictures and cards, puppets, flannelboard patterns, audio cassettes for the "listen and read" component, and teachers' books.

Further information about the program may be obtained from the publisher:

Fitzhenry & Whiteside
School Division
91 Granton Drive
Richmond Hill, Ontario L4B 2N5 Canada
Telephone (416) 764-0030 or Fax (416) 764-7156

Because of the focus of this series of curriculum resources, it is of special interest to readers of this journal. The editors particularly invite teachers who have used the resources, and researchers who have had experience with the Circle Program to submit reviews for publication in the journal.