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## New Materials

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# NEW MATERIALS

**Sandra Ahern**

READING CONSULTANT, COMSTOCK, MICHIGAN

*Why Am I Different?* by Norma Simon. Published by Albert Whitman and Company, 1976, 560 West Lake Street, Chicago, Ill., 60637, 32 pps., Grades K-2.

What does it mean to be different? How do we feel about it? The author uses everyday situations to show how boys and girls become aware of the similarities and differences through comparison, recognition, and analysis. The book makes a strong positive statement: "I am different and being different is O.K."

*Mystery of Lonely Lantern* by Florence Parry Heide and Roxanne Heide. Published by Albert Whitman and Company, 1976, 128 pps., Grades 3-8.

Suspense builds in this new Spotlight Club Mystery when, after seeing a mysterious stranger in an abandoned house on Halloween, the junior detectives try to learn the identity of the black-masked figure. The story is written and plotted appealingly for the special reader.

NOTE: The following books, reviewed in the fall '76 issue, are also from the Albert Whitman & Company, 560 West Lake Street, Chicago, Illinois, 60637.

*Soccer Hero*, by Mike Neigoff  
*Benny Uncovers a Mystery*, by Gertrude Chandler Warner  
*Grandma is Somebody Special*, by Susan Goldman  
*You Go Away*, by Dorothy Corey  
*Cuando Me Enojo*, by Norma Simon  
*A Button in Her Ear*, by Ada N. Litchfield  
*All Kinds of Families*, by Norma Simon  
*Skateboard Four*, by Eve Bunting  
*Codes for Kids*, by Burton Albert, Jr.

*The Diagnostic Inventory of Basic Skills* by Albert Brigance. Published by Curriculum Associates, Inc., 94 Bridge Street, Newton, Mass., 02158, 1976, 162 pps.

The purpose of this system is to assess basic readiness and academic skills from kindergarten through sixth grade. The in-

ventory allows the teacher to make detailed diagnosis and evaluation. The manual also makes it easy for the teacher to prescribe an instructional program tailored to meet the needs of the child.

The sequence of reading and computational skills includes levels from readiness through several skills in each category of reading, language skills, and mathematics. With the outstanding guidance the examiner is given through the various sub-tests, elementary teachers should find they can reach an accurate evaluation and diagnosis of any student's basic skills.

*Reading Aids Through the Grades—A Guide to Materials and 440 Activities for Individualizing Instruction* by David H. Russell and Etta E. Karp. Revised by Anne Marie Mueser, Teachers College Press, Columbia University, N.Y., N.Y., 10027, 338 pps., 1975.

The four hundred activities in this revised edition are divided into three major areas: reading readiness, beginning reading, and advanced reading skills. Activity objectives are listed, and numbered to accompany the ideas in each of the major areas. Many, many illustrations are given to help the teacher prepare the materials. Of further assistance to teachers is the annotated list of relevant reading materials published recently.