



ONCE UPON A TIME — It's story time at William Grace, and the new Library Learning Resource Center lends itself ideally to this activity. Mrs. Winifred Voorhees has an atten-

tive audience in the first grade class of Mrs. Karen Fischer who listens with them. (Evert photo)



WORD GAME — Reading specialist Mrs. Marjorie Brown tests William Grace second grader Ann Wierland to establish her level of comprehension. This will be a valuable aid to the teacher in selecting suitable reading material for Ann. (Evert photo)

New Space At Wm. Grace

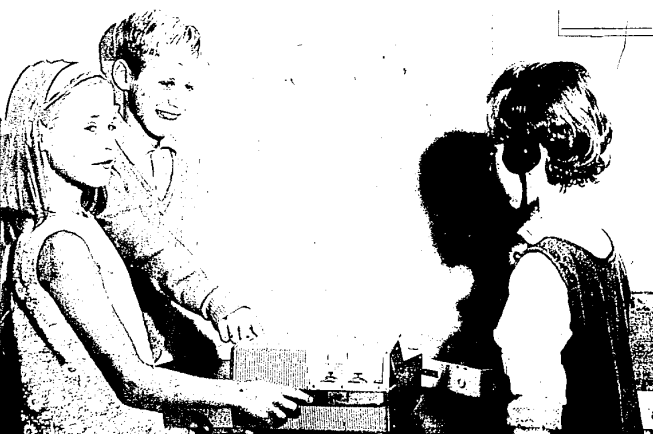
Learning Resource Center Opens

By WYLIE GERDES

Children quietly move about selecting books. Two research groups work on classroom projects. A teacher using a primary typewriter takes dictation from a youngster not yet able



TAKE A STORY — First grader Ray Fastnacht dictates a story suggested by his drawing to Mrs. Lynn Cole. They are assured of a quiet place for their activity in the workroom of the Library Learning Resource Center. (Evert photo)



HEAR AND SEE — Tapes and earphones are available at William Grace Library Learning Resource Center. Student Council officers Carol

to write.

All of these activities, without any group interfering with another, were happening simultaneously last week in the new "Library Learning Resource Center" in William Grace Elementary School, 20040 Shiawassee.

THE CENTER is a 3,800-square-foot addition which was dedicated at an open house recently. Parents, whom Principal Nicholas Abid credited with promoting the center, filled the new facility for the event.

Parents regularly assist with chores at the resource center and act as kindergarten aides.

The PTA was so anxious to augment equipment for the center that they reimbursed summer traveling teachers for artifacts from as far away as Africa. The objects are now displayed in the center.

TWO WORKROOMS, a conference room, and a large storage area for audio-visual materials surround the large carpeted library area.

All the equipment had to be stored in the school's lobby and hallways before the center was completed.

One small room off the library area has been equipped as a science laboratory, with reliefs of the earth on a wall and equipment stored in glass-fronted cabinets.

"Our staff's response to the beauty of the new addition has been just tremendous," said Mrs. Leona Crouse, director of the resource center. "It inspires everyone to do his very best when it is so obvious that the children are really developing as a result of individualized techniques.

"We couldn't operate so successfully without the complete cooperation of our gym teacher, speech therapist, reading specialist, art and music consultants. And of course the classroom teacher is the pivot around whom all of this revolves," Mrs. Crouse said.

Mrs. Winifred Voorhees, school librarian, was particularly excited about the rack of paperbacks for sale.

"We've been mobbed and completely sold out in no time," she said happily. "but we can then use the money to go right back and buy more books."

Photos
By Evert

SHE ASSERTS the paperback sale approach stimulates good reading habits. Average price of the books is 50 cents and the rack contains everything from "Peanuts" to the classics.

Another concept which pleases Mrs. Voorhees is "open circulation." New at the elementary level, the plan allows children to use the library just as they would a public library four or five times a week.

According to the librarian, teachers are thrilled by their students' response to this freedom. Reading habits are being greatly improved as the youngsters move from "must to may."

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Wolfman, David Kral and Kim Cole show how they may be used to enhance a class project. (Evert photo)