



THE





MIDDLE YEARS

MICHAEL J. SEXTON

Middle school youngsters are eager, enthusiastic, inquisitive, often boisterous. They are also, at times, moody, awkward, and insecure. They are experiencing the contradictory pleasures and pains of a period of intense physical and intellectual development. No longer children, not yet adults, they are explorers in a challenging new world. Our task as educators must be to design a program to meet the special needs of this age group—and to nourish their budding enthusiasms.

* *Michael J. Sexton, Principal, Platteville Middle School, Platteville, Wisconsin. These pictures and those on pp. 213 and 237 are taken from Dr. Sexton's all-photographic Ph.D. thesis, which is the subject of the book, Who Is the School? (Philadelphia: Westminster Press, 1973).*



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