

# The Search

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## IR&DT

Educational research, development, dissemination, and implementation have, over the years, tended to be carried out discretely. Those who were supposed to benefit from the outcomes of educational R&D tended to learn about new findings or innovative products only *after* all the work had been completed.

Perhaps the world is changing . . .

In 1979 the NIE-funded Interactive Research and Development on Teaching (IR&DT) program, which grew from ideas hatched back in 1975, published its findings, soon to be available through the ERIC system. In this case, two teams did the work, one in San Diego, California, the other in Vermont. Each team was made up of teachers, a researcher, and a trainer/developer; each spent more than 15 months carrying out its own IR&DT strategy while at the same time being "studied" by an external research group.

Each IR&DT team tackled questions, problems, and concerns of classroom teachers. Each did research at the local site and simultaneously developed training based on its research findings and on the methods/procedures used in its own study. Decisions were reached collaboratively. Classroom integrity was maintained; the aim was to avoid intruding on the everyday settings in which teaching and learning occur.

The California team focused its research (and later its inservice) on strategies and techniques used by classroom teachers to cope with distractions to instruction. The Vermont team looked into relationships between the mood of the teacher and the teacher's classroom supportive instructional behavior.

What has been learned about the implementation of IR&DT is reported

in *Executive Summary* (Report IR&DT-79-12), now available at \$1.50 for handling charges from William Tikunoff, Far West Laboratory, 1855 Folsom Street, San Francisco, California 94103. (Payment must accompany order.)

## Inservice

NEA's recently concluded Inservice Education Project, supported for nearly three years with funds from the NIE, carefully studied teacher use of inservice education program materials, particularly those validated by educational research and development. The project screened more than 600 R&D-based "products"—films, programmed texts, taped lectures, multimedia kits, workshop outlines, and other resources.

While supplies last, detailed descriptions of some 615 inservice program aids may still be ordered from the NEA project. The whole collection is priced at \$550, but 14 separate volumes (math, reading, career education, early childhood, social studies, special education, motivation, and so on) are priced at \$18 to \$90 per set.

Each description identifies grade level, intended users, primary focus, subject/topic covered, resources, purpose, content, activities, ordering information, developmental history, and so on. Also, each has a "describer critique" prepared by classroom teachers. Appropriateness, quality, and social fairness are examined.

The ERIC Clearinghouse on Teacher Education began to issue many of these descriptions individually (*not* in sets) on microfiche in October. If your resource center has problems locating them, write Pat Spellman at the Clearinghouse, 1 Dupont Circle, Washington, DC 20036, or order the sets from NEA Inservice Project, 1201 16th Street, NW, Washington, D.C. 20036.

## Bilingual

¿Quiere usted ayuda?

Then turn to the National Clearinghouse for Bilingual Education, 1500 Wilson Boulevard, Suite 802, Rosslyn, Virginia 22209. There's a toll-free phone line: 800/336-4560.

This source has information on how to locate each of the curriculum centers spread across the nation. Materials have been developed in more than a dozen languages in social studies, reading, math, and so on. You can also locate other centers that publish these materials and still others that provide bilingual teacher training resources.

The Clearinghouse also publishes a newsletter called *Forum*; just ask to be on the free mailing list.

If your district still lacks a copy of the Bilingual Education Act, Title VII of the Education Amendments of 1978, a reprint may be obtained for \$1.50.

## Manuals

Anyone planning to produce a manual or descriptive brochure will benefit from close study of *Guidelines for Writing and Printing Manuals*.

The first section discusses planning, organizing, and writing of different types of dissemination materials. The second section covers procedures for bidding, printing, and pricing and advises on use of illustrative materials. The third section looks at copyright, commercial publication, and legal matters. And the appendices offer examples of various basic components, excerpted from published manuals.

This 98-page spiral-bound resource may be obtained for \$6 (postage included) from the author: Lillian White-Stevens, Hopewell-Woodsville Road, Hopewell, New Jersey 08525.

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