On any given day, you may see the library media specialist. . .

- teaching individuals, small groups, or whole classes
- providing research assistance
- giving individual reading guidance
- tutoring
- conducting staff development
- helping teachers select and integrate the best resources for their lessons
- helping students and teachers use technology effectively
- circulating a wide range of materials to meet a variety of interests and needs
- planning with teachers to integrate information skills with classroom curriculum

What is the library media specialist's role in literacy?

The library media specialist . . .

- Advocates and promotes a school culture of reading and lifelong learning
- Introduces students to a variety of literature
- Develops the collection to provide materials that meet the needs of all learners
- Plans special events, including book fairs, author visits, and book competitions
- Recommends and integrates literature across the curriculum
- Matches the right book to the right reader with reading advice
- Teaches students to search for, gather, evaluate, organize and present information effectively

Students who read perform better in school.

How does reading improve student achievement?

comprehension
spelling
grammar
vocabulary
writing style
verbal fluency
general knowledge

Free voluntary reading results in better reading comprehension and writing style.
Krashen.
Power of Reading
(1993)

What does research say about the library media program's impact on student achievement?

Students in schools with well-equipped school media centers and professional media specialists will perform better on achievement tests for reading comprehension.
Lance, Keith Curry, et.al. (1999)

Students who read regularly and feel positively about reading are better readers and show higher gains in achievement regardless of social-economic status.
PISA 2000 Report

Collaboration activities including planning with teachers is linked directly with higher reading scores.
Lance, Keith Curry.
White House Conference on School Libraries (2002)

The mission of the library media program is to ensure that students and staff are effective users of ideas and information.
Information Power

All North Carolina Media Specialists must have a teaching certificate and a Master's Degree in Library and Information Science.

GASL
Guilford Association of School Librarians
2003

School Libraries

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Providing the Power of Information and Ideas