



## **AUDIENCE**

Pamunkey Regional Library has three general audience levels that it assigns materials to: Juvenile, Young Adult, and Adult. Library Staff use the following to determine the audience placement of materials: previously mentioned selection aids, BISAC (**B**ook **I**ndustry **S**tandards and **C**ommunications) headings, Library of Congress subject headings, CIP (**C**ataloging in **P**ublication) data, author and/or publisher's marketing and intent, and the anticipated interest of a particular audience. These audience levels serve as guideposts to assist readers and their families make decisions about titles that are the best for them based on literacy, interest, and content. These guideposts do not stand as proclamations by the Library as to the "suitability" or "appropriateness" of materials for individual persons; that remains the responsibility of the patron and/or their parents or guardians.

### **Juvenile Collection**

The Juvenile Collection provides a range of materials primarily intended to serve children from birth through age 12. Included in the collection are picture books, easy readers, graphic works, fiction, and nonfiction titles. All Juvenile Collection items are designated with a "Children's" audience facet in the Library's online catalog, can have a "P", "J", or "E" designation preceding the call number, and are shelved separately as their own collections in all library branches. The collection for children is carefully chosen with the emphasis on materials that entertain, stimulate the imagination, develop reading ability, and enable children to learn about the world around them. Collection management decisions are made on the basis of staff judgment, expertise, and by evaluating reviews in professional library reviewing journals and other library selection tools. The collection includes materials for all reading, listening, and viewing levels; for all recreational preferences; and on all subject interests.

Material purchased for older children served by the collection is often too complicated or mature to be useful or understood by the younger child. The Juvenile Collection, like all of literature, covers a wide range of subjects, themes, life situations, and often reflects reality. As such, it may include material that is controversial or offensive to some. Parents and/or guardians are expected to assist their children, especially younger children, in selecting materials to meet their needs and interests.

### **Young Adult Collection**

The Young Adult Collection provides a collection of materials specifically intended to serve the needs of patrons aged 13-18. The purpose of the Young Adult Collection is to meet the informational and recreational needs of teen patrons. All Young Adult collection items are designated with "YA" above the call number and are shelved separately as their own collection in all library branches. Young Adult materials include fiction, nonfiction, and graphic works.

Due to the wide range of tastes, reading abilities, and maturity levels in this age group, not all titles included in the Young Adult Collection will be appropriate for all ages. The Young Adult Collection, like all of literature, covers a wide range of subjects, language, and life situations. As such, it may include materials which is controversial or offensive to some. Parents and/or guardians are expected to assist their children, especially younger teens, in selecting materials to meet their needs and interests.