

Purpose

The Putnam County Public Library's mission is to promote literacy for all. This can only be achieved through collecting a variety of formats that stimulate the imagination, encourage curiosity, and ultimately embrace the technology of our time. PCPL's video game collection is the latest in an ongoing effort to engage our users in a meaningful experience with evolving narrative forms.

Guidelines for Selection

There will be two collections: one in the Adult area for use by patrons 13 years and older, and one collection in the Children's Department that will be for patrons 12 years and younger. The Entertainment Software Ratings Board (ESRB) rating system will be used as a guide to assist selectors in determining which collection a given game should be placed in. The ESRB system is currently:

eC - Early Childhood, content is intended for young children.

E - Everyone, Content is generally suitable for all ages.

E10 - Everyone 10+, Content is generally suitable for ages 10 and up.

T - Teen, Content is generally suitable for ages 13 and up.

M - Mature, Content is suitable for ages 17 and up.

A - Adults Only, Content is suitable only for adults ages 18 and up. May include prolonged scenes of intense violence, graphic sexual content and/or gambling with real currency.

Notes on the Collection

The collection will be wide ranging and will represent various viewpoints and beliefs.

The collection will be one that aims to stimulate the imagination, provide strong aesthetic experiences, and meet our patrons' need for creative development and learning.

Criteria for purchase include demand, budget, critical review, and timeliness of the material. Games that do not respect legal authority, irrationally violent, or explicitly sexual in nature will be avoided.

Requests/suggestions from patrons will be given serious consideration in the selection process.

Duplicating titles and replacement of lost or stolen items will be based on budget. *Items that are repeatedly lost/stolen may be replaced with non-circulating copies.* As with all library materials, patrons will be held responsible for the replacement costs for lost or damaged items.

Donated items will be considered for addition to the collection, and any item not added will be given to the Friends of the Library for its ongoing sale.

The collection will center around last generation consoles (Wii, PS3, XBox 360) for the time being until the majority of our patronage acquires current generation consoles (PS4 and XBox1).

The Library intends to have a small in house collection of consoles and games for Library use in new programming/events for all ages.

Games that require additional peripherals to play (Guitar Hero and Wii Fit Games) will remain part of the small in-house collection.