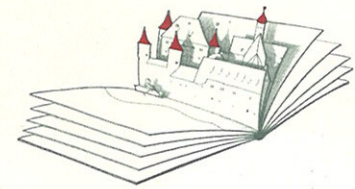


The **Internationale Jugendbibliothek**



... is the **largest library** for international children's and youth literature in the world. Ever since it was founded in 1949 by Jella Lepman, it has been continuously expanded to an internationally recognised centre for the world's children's and youth literature.

Jella Lepman began her work immediately after the end of World War II with an international exhibition of children's and youth literature in Munich. She saw this as an opportunity to find new hope and values after the years of Nazi terror and the horrors of war and to awaken a new understanding for other peoples and nations. She directed her attention to both children and adults. For adults, she sought to establish a discourse about children's literature. To children, she offered a selection of books to read, look at, and enjoy. Still today these are the two guiding principles of the library.

Since **1983**, the Internationale Jugendbibliothek has been housed in Blutenburg Castle in the Obermenzing district of Munich. With the library's arrival, the medieval Blutenburg Castle was turned into a »Book Castle«.

The library fulfils the mandate of its statutes by collecting, cataloguing, and facilitating communication about children's and youth literature as well as promoting cultural youth programmes and intercultural understanding.

... owns a collection

of almost 600,000 books, most of which can be consulted in the study library.

Among these are 560,000 children's and young adult books in more than 130 languages – including 60,000 historical children's books, published between 1574 and 1950 – and 30,000 volumes of secondary literature.

In addition, 40,000 documentary materials and 130 current journals offer extensive research possibilities for general and scientific purposes.

Each year, **the scholarship program**, financed by the Foreign Ministry of the Federal Republic of Germany, enables up to 15 international professionals of all fields of children's and youth literature to visit the Book Castle for a few months and do research at the library.

Since **1996**, the library is maintained by the foundation Stiftung Internationale Jugendbibliothek.

Its funding comes from



Bayerisches Staatsministerium für
Unterricht und Kultus



... has a lot to offer to its visitors:

The research library offers access to its reference collection of primary and secondary literature, to historical children's books, and to professional journals.

The »reading museums« invite visitors to explore the life and works as well as the international reception of the German authors Michael Ende, Erich Kästner, and James Krüss and the illustrator Binette Schroeder.

Throughout the year, the library mounts **exhibitions** on a wide range of themes about international children's and youth literature in the Jella-Lepman-Saal, the Christa-Spangenberg-Saal, the Wehrgang-Galerie and the Schatzkammer.

The children's lending library enables children to take 25,000 books and other media in approx. 15 different languages home with them and invites children to take part in various reading promotion programmes as well as language and painting courses.

Adults can attend training courses and seminars, which are announced in the library's annual programme brochure and on its website.

With its publications such as the »White Ravens«, an annual catalogue of new international children's books, booklists, and a variety of travelling exhibitions, the library keeps in contact with its visitors and with other institutions from Germany and abroad.