About the International Library of Children's Literature

The International Library of Children's Literature (ILCL)is the sole national library dedicated to children's literature. The library has three basic roles:

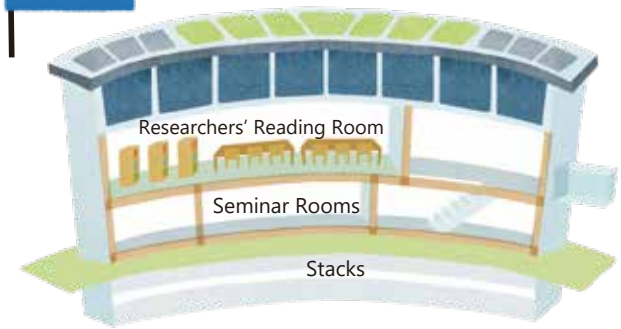
(1) To serve as a library specialized in children's literature, collecting books for children from Japan and around the world to preserve and utilize them for research.

(2) To serve as a place where children come in contact with books, providing opportunities to become familiar with libraries and reading.

(3) To serve as a museum of children's books, introducing all people to the wonders of children's literature.

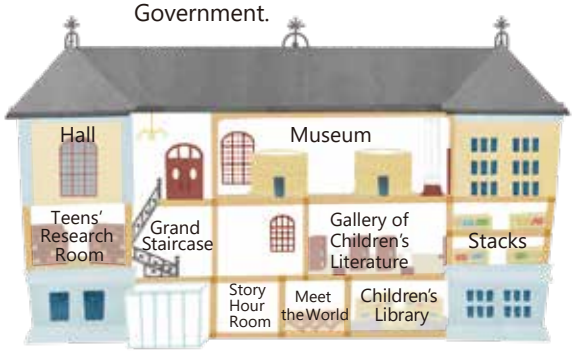
Arch Building

Built in 2015
The building has a curved exterior.



Brick Building

The original Imperial Library building was originally built in 1906 and enlarged in 1929. It is a leading example of Renaissance-style Western architecture during the Meiji era (1868–1912) and has been designated a selected historic structure by the Tokyo Metropolitan Government.



User Guide

Opening Hours 9:30 -17:00

Reader Services

Reading Rooms	9:30 -17:00
Call-slip acceptance	9:30 -16:30

Photoduplication Services

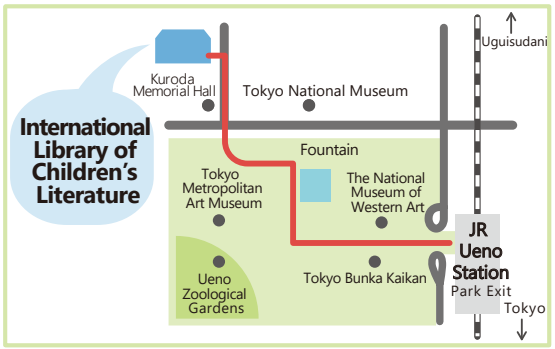
Same-day Photoduplication Requests (for printouts of electronic materials)	10:00 -16:00
Later date Photoduplication (sent by mail) Requests	10:00 -16:30
Receiving copies	10:00 -12:00 13:00 -16:30

Library Closed

Mondays
National holidays
(except Children Children's Day on May 5)
Year-end and New Year's Holidays
The third Wednesday of each month

Access

A 10-minute walk from the Park Exit of the JR Ueno Station



National Diet Library
International Library of Children's Literature
12-49 Ueno Koen, Taito-ku, Tokyo 110-0007, Japan
Tel +81-3-3827-2053
Fax +81-3-3827-2043

Website
https://www.kodomo.go.jp/en

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(2026.9)

Welcome to

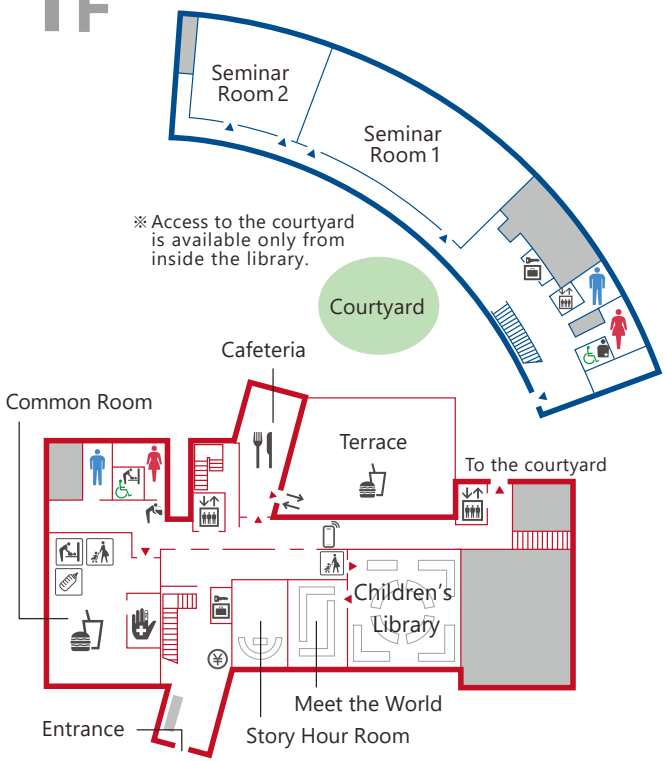
International Library of Children's Literature

National Diet Library



International Library of Children's Literature
国立国会図書館 国際子ども図書館

1F



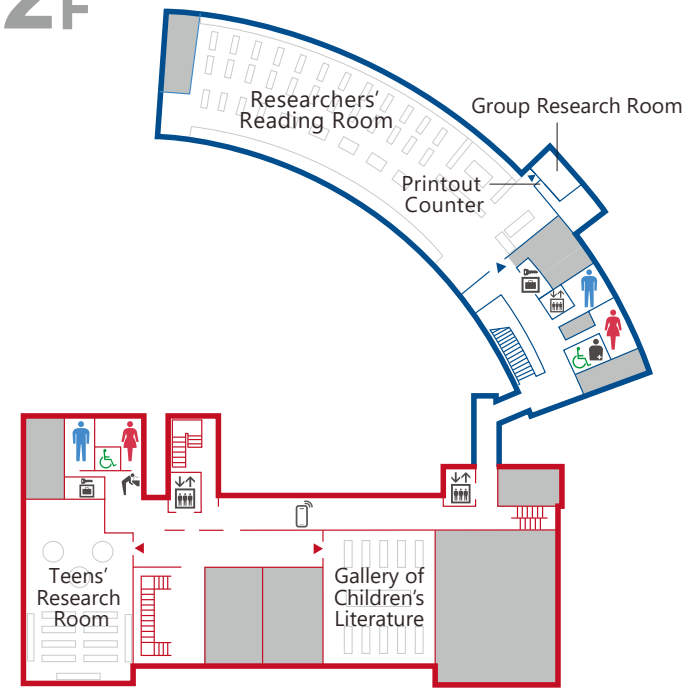
Children's Library
Picture books, story books, and general knowledge books for young readers up to elementary school age are available here.

Story Hour Room
This room is used for story hour activities such as reading picture books and storytelling to children.

Meet the World
Books on countries and regions from around the world are available here.

Seminar Rooms 1 & 2
These rooms are used for lecture meetings, seminars, and events for children.

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Teens' Research Room
Materials useful for teens doing research are available here.

Gallery of Children's Literature
A gallery showing the history of Japanese children's books from the Meiji era to the present is available here.

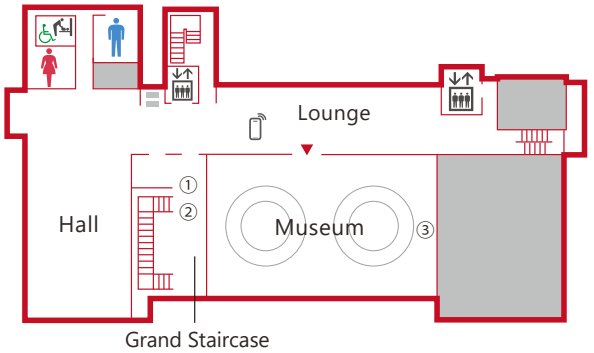
Researchers' Reading Room
Room for researching children's literature. Registration is required to enter the room. Children's literature published in Japan and abroad, reference materials on children's books, and school textbooks currently used in Japan are available on open shelves. Materials in closed stacks are available upon request.

3F

① 
Grand Staircase

② 
A chandelier in use since 1906.

③ 
The aedicule: doors to stacks.



Hall
In addition to an exhibition on the ILCL, concerts and other events are also held here.

Museum
Exhibitions covering a variety of subjects on books for children are held here.

Lounge
Space enclosed by a glass curtain wall. You can see the original exterior wall and appurtenances.

Stacks
Stacks, located in the brick building and the arch building, can house about one million books (Staff only.).



Please refrain from the following while visiting the Library

- Taking photographs where prohibited.
- Eating, drinking, or talking on the phone except where permitted.
- Smoking anywhere in the library.

Men's restroom
Women's restroom
Multipurpose restroom
Toilet for ostomates
Phone calls permitted
Aid Station
Coin lockers ※The coin returns when the lock is opened.
Money-changing machine
Nursing space
Diaper changing seat
Cafeteria
Water cooler
Eating area
Elevator
Pram parking