

Pratt INFO Show 2023

Now You're Collecting My Language:



Collection Development in Brooklyn Public Library's Youth Wing

Brianna Stamm, M.S.L.I.S.

Introduction

- Brooklyn Public Library Central Branch is the **main branch** and **largest collection** of Brooklyn Public Library
- The library hosts a large number of **diverse patrons** daily.
- Because of the enormity and importance of this branch, the Youth Wing is always **buzzing and busy with young patrons** from all over the **borough and beyond.**



Introduction

- The catalog includes over **a million cataloged books**, ebooks, magazines, and multimedia materials. And, they have extended their object library to **instruments, telescopes, records, and board games**.
- The Youth Wing also hosts multiple programs daily including **story hours**, craft hours, chess, **teen programming**, and various activities for all ages.



World Language Collection Development

- The Central Branch Youth Wing's World Language Collection Analysis was **based on public and patron interactions and equity.**
- The project determined who and how the World Languages section is serving and how it can be **potentially improved.**
- The data sheet and suggestions can be utilized after I leave my practicum site and modeled to determine further collection development and purchases.
- Previously, the collection had been weeded in January (quite recently). But in February, during a Saturday shift, the pipes burst causing significant damage to the collection...

Introduction



World Language Collection VS. The Youth Wing

- The collection includes all reading levels and genres on the same shelves organized by language and then alphabetically.

- In shelves outside of the World Language Collection, books in the Young Adult section are organized into the following categories; Graphic Novels, Young Adult Fiction, and Nonfiction.
- In shelves outside of the World Language Collection, books in the Children's section are organized into the following categories; Board Books, Picture Books, Early Readers, Graphic Novels, Bridge Books, Juv. Fiction, and Nonfiction call numbers.

Methodology



01

Collect a sample
size of the World
Languages
Collection

03

Collect and catalog the
data on a spreadsheet

05

Compare the data to
Brooklyn Stat Tableau

Individually scan each
book in Sierra

02

Write / Code /
Conduct a data
analysis

04

Pass
Recommendations
to Admin / Pursue
Next Steps

06



World Languages Collections Data



File Edit View Insert Format Data Tools Extensions Help


Search icons: magnifying glass, undo, redo, print, refresh, 50%, \$, %, .0, .00, 123, Default..., font size 10, Bold, Italic, Underline, Text color, Background color, Borders, Styles, Lists, Sort, Filter, Zoom, Print, Help

A1 Language

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S
	Language	Title	Pub Info	Created	Author	Copy	Genre	Reading Level	Call #	English or Second Language?	# of Times Checked Out	# of Renewal	Last Check In	Last Check Out	STAT Category	Format	Item Type	Price	Other Info/Comments
7	Chinese	Lü ye xian zong / (Mei) Laiman Fulanke Baomuzhu	Beijing : Zhong yang guang bo dian shi da xue chu ban she, 2017	02-24-2022	Baum, L. Frank	1	Fiction	J Fiction / Chapter Book	CHI J FIC BAUM	N/A	2	5	01-09-2023 11:22 AM	11-10-2022 3:50 PM	820 nJUV WL	3Juv Hardcover/Trade Books		\$22.80	
8	Chinese	Nu wu de hai zi / Kaiil Baenxier zhu	Guoyang : Guoshou ren min chu ban she, 2019	10-29-2020	Barnhill, Kelly Regan	1	Fiction	J Fiction / Chapter Book	CHI J FIC BARNHILL	N/A	1	0	04-15-2021 3:29 PM	04-15-2021 3:28 PM	800 nJUV WL	3Juv Hardcover/Trade Books		\$9.36	
9	Chinese	Da sang men zhuang ji / (Mei) Wellian Amustielang zhu ; Xu Kuang yi	Shijiazhuang : Hebei jiao yu chu ban she, 2016	1-14-2019		1	Fiction	J Fiction / Chapter Book / YA	CHI J FIC ARMSTRONG	N/A	1	0	09-02-2020 1:22 PM	3/14/2020 13:12:00 PM	820 nJUV WL	3Juv Hardcover/Trade Books		\$8.96	Newberry Award winner
10	Chinese	An tu sheng tong hua / (Danna) Antusheng zhu	Beijing : Zhong yang guang bo dian shi da xue chu ban she, 2017	2-24-2022	Andersen, H. C. (Hans Christian)	1	Fiction	J Fiction / Chapter Book	CHI J FIC ANDERSEN	N/A	2	1	03-27-2023 12:07 PM	03-08-2023 12:14 PM	820 nJUV WL	3Juv Hardcover/Trade Books		\$22.80	
11	Chinese	Xiang fei de Qiaoqi = The Redging / (Mei) Jian Landun zhu	Shi jia zhuang : He bei jiao yu chu ban she, 2012	09-12-2016	Langton, Jane	1	Fiction	J Fiction / Chapter Book	CHI J FIC LANGTON	N/A	2	1	03-11-2023 11:39	01-14-2023 3:17 PM	820 nJUV WL	3Juv Hardcover/Trade Books		\$5.99	
12	Chinese	Xiao pi hai ri ji : Zhong wen ban. 5	Guang zhou : Xin shi ji chu ban she, 2013	09-23-2016	Kinney, Jeff	1	Fiction	J Fiction / Chapter Book	CHI J FIC KINNEY	N/A	8	8	01-14-2023 3:15 PM	11-05-2022 1:28 PM	820 nJUV WL	3Juv Hardcover/Trade Books		\$15.00	
13	Chinese	Xiao pi hai ri ji : Zhong wen ban. 2 / (Mei) Jiefu Jimi zhu ; Chen Wannu, Zhu Lian yi.	Guang zhou : Xin shi ji chu ban she, 2012	08-03-2016	Kinney, Jeff	1	Fiction	J Fiction / Chapter Book	CHI J FIC KINNEY	N/A	9	8	03-11-2023 11:39 AM	01-14-2023 3:17 PM	820 nJUV WL	3Juv Hardcover/Trade Books		\$15.00	
14	Chinese	Lan mei ji jie = The sanning season / (Mei) Boli - Huohuasi zhu ; Zhao Yongfer yi	Kurming : Chen guang chu ban she, 2014	12-19-2017	Horvath, Polly	1	Fiction	J Fiction / Chapter Book	CHI J FIC HORWATH	N/A	2	0	01-22-2022 1:11 PM	10-16-2021 11:04 AM	820 nJUV WL	3Juv Hardcover/Trade Books		\$18.20	National Award
15	Chinese	Aolifu de hai yang = Olive's ocean	Tianjin Shi : Xin lei chu ban she, 2014	9-9-2016	Henkes, Kevin	1	Fiction	J Fiction / Chapter Book	CHI J FIC HENKES	N/A	0	0	N/A	N/A	820 nJUV WL	3Juv Hardcover/Trade Books		\$18.00	International Awards
16	Chinese	Zhong yao de gu shi / Ge Culin zhu	Beijing Shi : Tian tian chu ban she you xian ze ren gong si, 2021	09-28-2022	Ge, Cullin	1	Fiction	Bridge Book	CHI J FIC GE	N/A	0	0	N/A	N/A	820 nJUV WL	3Juv Hardcover/Trade Books		\$10.00	
17		Cha ye de gu shi / Ge Culin	Beijing Shi : Tian tian chu ban she you xian ze ren													3Juv Hardcover/Trade			

Categories



1. Language
 2. Title
 3. Author
 4. Publication Information,
 5. Date the catalog entry was created
 6. Number of copies
 7. Genre
 8. Reading level
 9. STAT category
 10. Item type
 11. Call number
 12. Additional languages
 13. Number of times checked out
 14. Number of times renewed
 15. Last check-in,
 16. Last check-out
 17. Price
 18. And any other additional comments.
- 

Anticipated Questions



- Who uses the world language books?
- What language is used most often?
- Are there discrepancies in reading level?
- Are materials that offer multiple languages (English and etc.) checked out more?

Findings

- The largest collections were the Chinese and Spanish collections (reflective of Census data) and offered **more English Authors translated and more English Classics**, both of which were checked out more than traditional Bengali or Arabic classics.
- When languages gave the options of graphic novels, **graphic novels were checked out more** than other reading levels and genres.

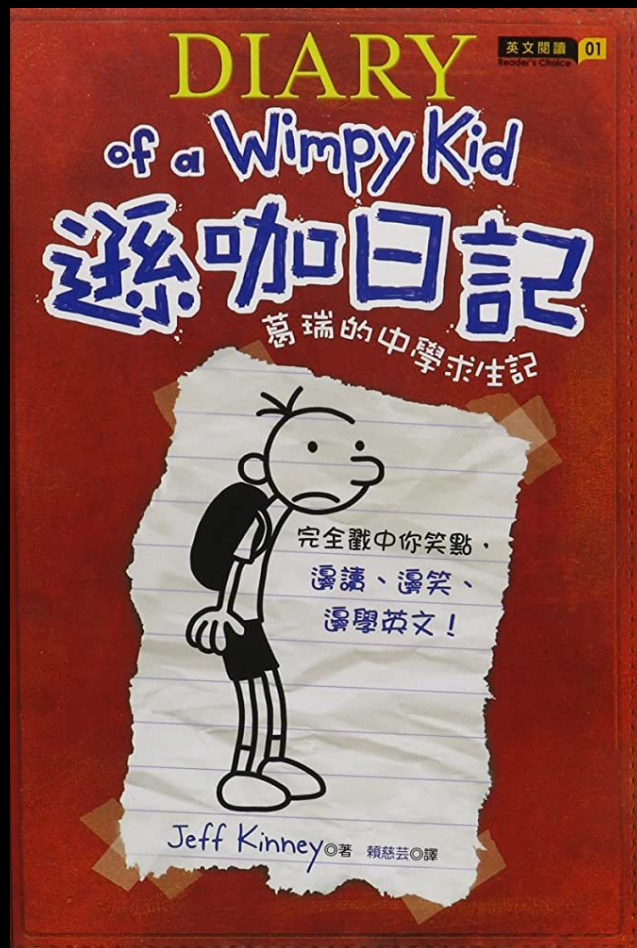
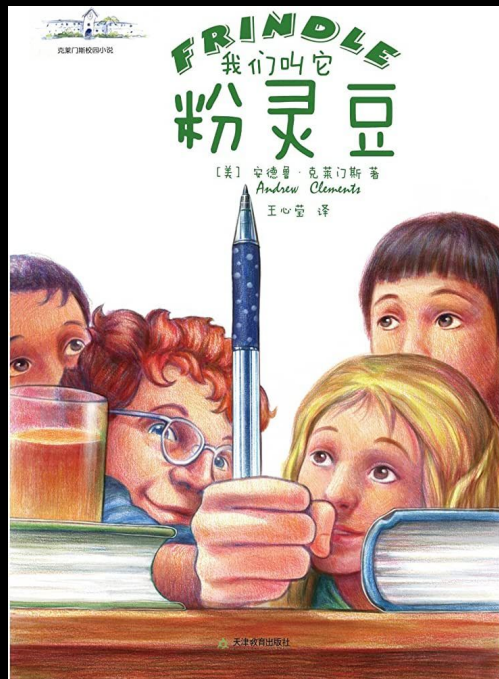


Findings

- **Translated series** like “Diary of a Wimpy Kid” and the “I Survived” had **higher usage and checkout rates** than comparative titles.
- There was a prevalence of English or World awarded books in Chinese and Spanish (all of which experience checkouts) than in other languages. For example, Bengali books had no Newbery or Caldecott award winning books.



Series & Award Winners

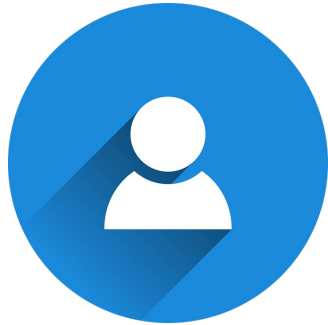


Finding

- Books with **both English and another language** were checked out more often (**2 times** as much in this sample) than just language books.

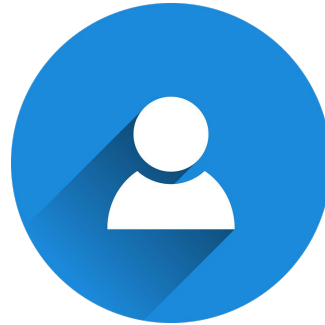


Placing Patrons as the Informational Protagonists



**Patron
Persona 1**

- Young Korean American boy with mother looking for “gross” books



**Patron
Persona 2**

- Recent asylum seekers looking for American history and books with English



**Patron
Persona 3**

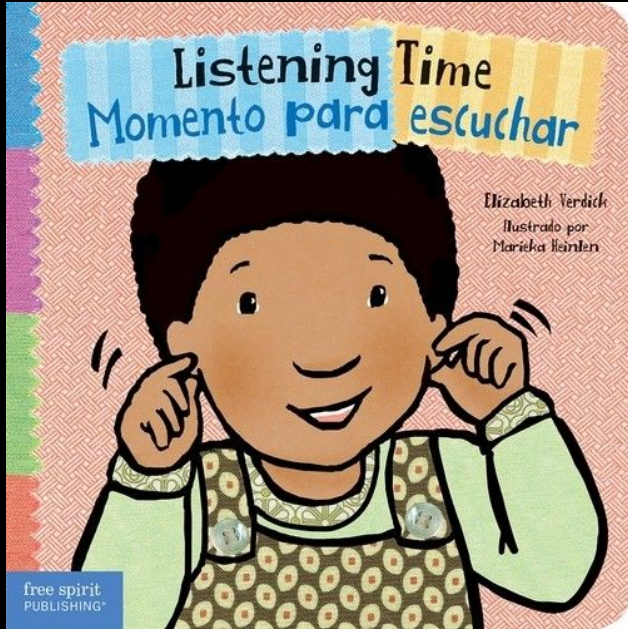
- Adult with immigrant family members requesting a picture dictionary

Recommendations

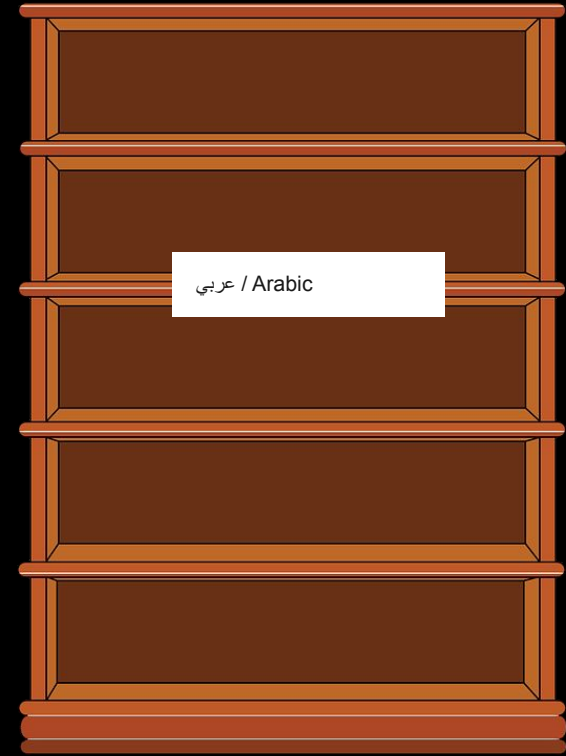
- Stickers on the spine to signal when a book has an additional language.
- Stickers on the spine for reading level or making book match or other running lists for reading levels of the collection
 - EX: If a patron is looking for a graphic novel, or a bridge book they can peruse through a running list of books within this grade / reading level range. The purpose of this would be to keep the collection as is in the physical space so that the collection itself does not require subcategories, and instead librarians can search this list and locate the material in its original space (organized by language and then alphabetically)



Labels / Signage



Labels / Signage



Arabic = عربي / Arabic



Recommendations

- Creating a **subcategory** in the Brooklyn Online Catalog
 - This would allow users to see the coding for location as “World Language” - where the material is located in the physical space-, and also what **reading level**.

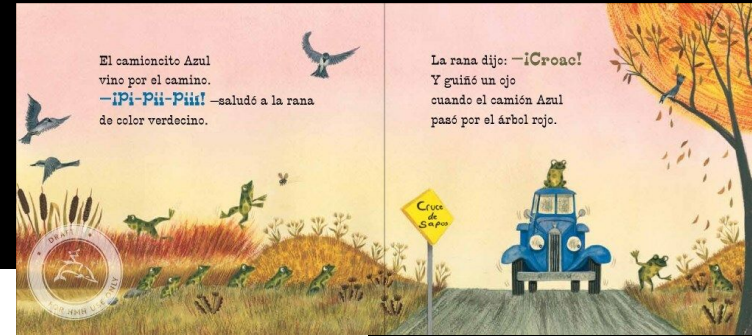


for the title *El camioncito azul*, the change would be from;

- **Call number:** SPA J-E SCHERTLE
Publisher: Boston, Massachusetts : Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, [2013]
Target Age: Kids
Language: Español | Spanish
Central 1st FI - Juv WL to : Central 1st FI - Juv WL /

To;

- **Call number:** SPA J-E SCHERTLE
Publisher: Boston, Massachusetts : Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, [2013]
Target Age: Kids
Language: Español | Spanish
Reading Level: Picture Book
Central 1st FI - Juv WL to : Central 1st FI - Juv WL /



ALA Standard Analysis

The standards the collection is achieving effectively include

- 2.1.1 - Provision of library materials should be related primarily to the size of the group in the community.
- 2.2l Materials should be acquired in a variety of formats, including print, audio-visual, and computer software.
- 2.2.2 Libraries should acquire materials to service the diverse needs of the community including children, the physically challenged, and all educational and reading levels.
- 2.3.1 Libraries should catalog all materials in the original language and script. They should provide subject access both in English and in the original language. Bibliographic information must be transliterated for staff use.
- 2.4.1 Multilingual collections housed separately should be visible and accessible to the community.
- 2.5.1 Collections should be maintained so that they contain current and relevant materials as well as classic literature.
- 4.1 Library staff working with multilingual patrons should be multilingual in order to provide effective service. In addition, they should possess relevant cultural knowledge to ensure sensitivity to the community.



Reflections

- At BPL I recognized the importance of serving **diverse populations** and creating **equitable and reflective spaces**.
- At the reference desk I encountered multiple patron personas and examples that have shaped the way I analyzed the data.
 - Other examples include **specific reference desk requests** such as; bilingual books, picture dictionaries, and more.
- The Central Branch Youth Wing is both **dedicated and determined to serve the community** in an equitable manner; this is proven through my colleagues' efforts to **speak multiple languages**, design culturally responsive programming that's reflective of the patron demographic, and their collection development.



Reflections

- The low volume of publishing speaks to a **dominant Global North publishing house** rather than criticizes the efforts of Brooklyn Public Library alone.
- According to the Brooklyn Stat data, our patron demographics include **16.6% Spanish speakers** in Brooklyn, and approximately 9% in our branch patron demographics.
- These Spanish speakers are **not exclusively from Spain**, yet the majority, according to my sample size, of the collection of Spanish books are published in America or Spain.
- This brings into question- **are the “mirrors” actually “mirrors”?** If a large percentage of Spanish speakers in Brooklyn come from Central and South America, then the collection should reflect both new perspectives (windows), and mirrored cultural experiences hailing from home countries. Other libraries in Oregon and California have begun funding trips to home countries (Cambodia).



Conclusion



Pratt

Brooklyn Public Library Youth Wing By: Brianna Stamm



World Language Collection Overview

The World Languages Collection is comprised of over 500 Children and Young Adult books in over 26 languages. This purpose of this project was to examine the efficacy and equity of the collection.

Brooklyn Stat & Patron Data

Brooklyn Stat uses the U.S. Census to create a general overview of patron demographics. The data can be filtered by branch or by the entire borough and can be used in conjunction with collection development.

Collection Analysis

- Books that are a part of a series, are written by an American author, and/or have won an international or American award are more likely to be checked out. Case example; The Wimpy Kid series.
- Books that offer English and an additional language, such as Spanish, are two times more likely to be checked out.
- The Central Library Collection demonstrates the effectiveness of reflecting and utilizing Brooklyn Stat demographics, with the most checked-out books and largest collections correlating to the largest demographics.



Collection Development Conclusions

- Labeling books with stickers or indicators that show dual languages or reading level may lead to higher checkout rates.

When examining the World Language Collection, it is important to consider what a mirror and a window is to this patron group. Acknowledging Global North publishing houses shows that not all perspectives are being offered or mirrored to Brooklyn patrons.

- The Central Library's effectiveness is a testament to the successful collection development and weeding by library staff and their dedication to patron population; consistent funding can also address the gaps mentioned in this study. Please consider advocating against the proposed budget cuts to Brooklyn Public Library.



THANK YOU

Questions? Comments?
Concerns?

