

## p. Using the multilingual library



To ensure that the multilingual library is accessible to all children and that they are motivated to use it, it is essential to provide clear and engaging instructions. These instructions should not only guide students on how to navigate and utilise the library but also inspire them to explore the diverse resources available. Below are some key considerations and motivational strategies to achieve this.

### **Make Multilingual Books Visible**

- Display books prominently in different languages to attract attention.
- Use colourful and inviting posters in various languages to highlight sections of the library.

### **Understand the School Context**

- Consider the languages and cultures of the families at school.
- Ensure the library's resources reflect the diverse backgrounds of the students.

### **Facilitate Access to Resources**

- Ensure that all students know how to find and check out materials.
- Provide simple, multilingual instructions on how to use the library's catalogue and resources

### **Organise Library Orientation Events**

- Organise guided tours to introduce students to the multilingual library and demonstrate how to use it effectively.

### **Create Engaging Library Activities**

- Organise challenging games to motivate children to use and explore the multilingual library.
- For example, conduct library rallies where children search for books in different languages or in their own languages, making the exploration fun and educational.

**Example: Die Freiburger Bücherrallye** <https://www.stadtbibliothek.freiburg.de/-/die-freiburger-bucherrallye>

### **Multilingual Reading Sessions**

- Organise reading sessions where books are read in various languages, including those spoken by students in the class. For example, one week a story could be read in Spanish, the next in Arabic, or others represented in the school.
- This not only exposes students to different languages but also helps them appreciate and become familiar with the languages spoken within the school community.

### **Reading Passport Program:**

- Implement a reading passport program where students get a stamp in their "passport" each time they read a book in a different language/ in their languages.

### **Promotion and Awareness:**

- Promote the library through various channels such as school newsletters, social media, and parent-teacher meetings.
- Ensure that if the multilingual library has an internet page, it is also multilingual, including languages spoken within the school community. This will enhance accessibility and engagement among students and families who speak different languages, fostering inclusivity and promoting the use of the library's online resources.

**Feedback and Suggestions:** give the opportunity for suggestions and feedback. So, if there a specific book or language a student or a parent like to be included in the library create an opportunity to give this suggestion

- **Suggestion Box:** Place a suggestion box prominently in the library where students and parents can write down their book or language requests anonymously.
- **Online Form:** Create online suggestion form on the school's website or library page where families can easily submit their suggestions for new books or languages to be included.
- **Library Newsletter:** Include a section in the library newsletter where families are encouraged to send in their suggestions for books or languages.

### **Sac d'histoires -**

The story bags are an initiative developed in **Switzerland** by Christiane Perregaux- The aim **is to facilitate** the communication with the families via books. Each evening, the children go back home with a bag containing a book, a translation of the book in the school language and if possible a CD with the oral reading of the book. Puppets can be added or a game to add to the story and complement it.