**YOUTH: J INTERNATIONAL LANGUAGE**

**Youth Services, Whitney Jones**

**COLLECTION AUDIENCE AGE**

The J International Language collection is generally used by children, families, and students studying various languages.

**BUDGET AND ORDERING FREQUENCY**

The annual budget for J International Language is $2000. Selections are made for this collection quarterly.

**DESCRIPTION AND INFLUENCING FACTORS**

The J International Language collection contains materials in a variety of formats and topics, including Picture Books, Board Books, Nonfiction, Fiction, and Early Readers. DVDs and Language Kits are also found in this collection.

As of 2023, the following languages are represented in the collection: Ahmaric, Arabic, Bengali, Chinese, French, Gaelic, German, Greek, Hebrew, Hindi, Italian, Japanese, Korean, Portuguese, Norwegian, Polish, Russian, Spanish, Swahili, Tamil, Turkish, Urdu, Vietnamese, Zulu.

**SCOPE AND DEVELOPMENT**

The J International Language collection offers materials in a variety of formats to accommodate readers of different abilities and interests. Picture books are the most commonly purchased format due to their accessibility for readers and ease in purchasing.

The past decade has seen a large increase in Northville’s Asian population. According to the most recent American Community Survey (2021), over a thousand households in Northville speak Asian languages at home. Thus, adding materials in Asian languages, particularly Chinese, Japanese, and Korean is a top priority for this collection.

Northville Public Schools offer language courses in Chinese, French, German, and Spanish. Titles in these languages should also be purchased for use by students developing their language skills.

Books and materials in languages besides those mentioned will be purchased at the selector’s discretion.

**VENDORS**

Some International Language titles can be purchased on Baker & Taylor, particularly Spanish books. However, the development of the J International Language collection is largely through other vendors. Tsai Fong (bookswindow.com) offers children’s books in Chinese, Japanese, Korean, and Vietnamese. Sawa Books offers children’s books in Arabic, Chinese, French, German, Hebrew, Somali, Persian, Russian, and Spanish, with particularly strong Arabic offerings.

**REVIEW SOURCES**

Reviews for International Language books are rare, but sometimes appear in School Library Journal and Booklist.

**RETENTION AND WEEDING**

This collection should be weeded annually, removing items which have not circulated in 5 years or more. Items which have circulated but are in poor condition, or items which were recently acquired and have become damaged, should be replaced whenever possible.

Due to the expense and difficulty in purchasing international language materials, unique items that haven’t circulated in 5 years may be retained at the selector’s discretion.

Removing all items in a language may be done if overall circulation and interest in that language is low.

**CATALOGING AND PROCESSING CONSIDERATIONS**

A variety of call numbers are used in J International Language, depending on the format of the item. The item’s language should always be included in the call number.

**SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS**

New SEMCOG data should be analyzed when available to determine the lingual makeup of the community and guide the development of the collection.