

Great North Museum:
Hancock Library



Library Collections Management Policy Appendix D Children's Collection

1. Collection History

The Children's Collection was created in 2012 and has developed over time. It was made possible with a Business Partners Fund (Family Challenge Fund). There is a dedicated space available for the collection within the Library.

The aims of the collection are to:
Encourage families to visit the Library and to make use of the three collections
Increase knowledge of the Museum's object collections for all members of the family by providing a range of accessible books on selected topics

While the Library is not specifically a child-friendly space, children and their families are welcome to enjoy the books as part of their day at the Museum.

2. Collection Description

We have a small collection of children's books within the Library that relate to the Museum. It contains reference books about history, archaeology, science and nature, as well as picture books.

Books within this collection are aimed at our younger visitors who might want to find out more or just have a moment of quiet in the Museum.

Books within this collection cannot be loaned, but rather enjoyed by all within the Library.

Children in the Library must be supervised at all times.

3. Specific Collecting Principles

The children's collection should contain books that relate to the Museum's collections: history, archaeology, science, and natural history.

Books are aimed at younger readers and their families. Books should be 'quick reads' or for reference.

The collection does not contain children's chapter books.

4. Responsibility for Collecting

The responsibility for collecting lays with the Library Co-ordinator.

4.1 Collection Fund

There is no specific budget allocation for this collection. Donations from NHSN and SANT are welcome, provided they meet the collection criteria. Occasional purchases can be made through the GNMH Library budget.

4.2 Cataloguing and Classifying the Collection

The children's collection is a reference-only collection. Cataloguing books within this collection is a low priority and not necessary.

4.3 Processing and Repair of Stock

Processing of new books is the responsibility of the GNMH Library Coordinator. Library volunteers can carry out minor repairs to stock.

5. Location and Arrangement of Stock

Items can be found in the following locations:

- Public Access

A small bay has been made available for the children's collection. Books have been arranged into the following categories:

- History
- Science
- Nature
- Dinosaurs
- Picture Books