

to get control of the pandemic on the other.

Beginning in May, NCL Director-General Tseng guided the planning to place all of NCL's databases created over the years and its diverse audiovisual contents under the aforementioned Website. The available digital resources include digital resource services across disciplines for different age levels and different needs which including Library to Your Home, Free e-resources Websites, Booklists on the Pandemic, the Digital Audiovisual Archive System, Taiwan Memory (including exhibitions), and NCL E-learning Campus online courses. The aim of the Website is to bring together all of NCL's digital resources to make it convenient for users to find e-books, watch movies, learn English, or take online courses at home. Users of all ages are invited to well utilize these resources to learn and grow, get prepared for the time when schools resumed after the pandemic been controlled.

NCL's Reading Is Power website: <https://isp.ncl.edu.tw/site-readingispower>



"Working together to fight the pandemic" poster.

■ "Easy Selection of Infant Age-based Themed Books" Website and Touring Exhibition on Themed Infant Books

In September 2019, the National Central Library invited scholars and experts in infant reading materials to work in collaboration with front-line librarians working with children readers to develop a thematic framework for recommendation of infant books. In 2020, the Infant Books Age Classification Theme Table was successfully developed, and in the same year, Cultivating Key Abilities Through Reading—Guide to Choosing Children's Picture Books and related promotion materials were published and sent to public libraries island wide for joint promotion.

To enable librarians of public libraries to use the Infant Books Age Classification Theme Table as a reference tool to help parenting book selection,

and to make effective use of the content of thematic picture books to enhance children's learning and subtly trigger their creativity and expression ability, the NCL established the Website of Easy Selection of Infant Age-based Themed Books (<https://isp.ncl.edu.tw/infant-promote>) and planned for the associated touring exhibition between April and June 2021. This exhibition was conducted jointly with the regional resource centers of 12 public libraries. The activity mainly consisted of two parts, the first of which was the thematic book exhibition. The exhibition was curated by the collaborating libraries which tried to use more than 300 books believed to be related to the growth and learning steps of infants, carefully selected from the "Good Books Website" (haoshuya.com) by parents. The second part was a voting activity for the favorite library, inviting readers attending the exhibition to visit the voting website and vote for their favorite exhibition. The purpose of this voting activity was to find out the reliability of librarians' book selection. From the voting result librarians can reconsider about if their book selections were adequate enough to meet parents' needs, thereby reduce the gap between the librarians and parents.



On April 7, 2021, NCL Director-General Tseng delivers remarks at the opening ceremony.

The dedicated touring exhibition webpage was created under the website Easy Selection of Infant Age-based Themed Books to promote the activity and to handle the online voting activity. It happened that, during the activity, the Covid-19 alert was raised up to the third level. All county and city libraries had to comply with the Central Epidemic Command Center's disease prevention policy and,

from May 15, all libraries closed temporarily to the public. Libraries could not but canceled the planned exhibition for reading promotion. Thanks to the support of libraries that switched immediately to online book exhibitions and services that enabled people to retain their reading habit. The NCL also arranged free online resources on the themed book introductory webpage, including iRead eBooks and the like from the Ministry of Culture's Infant Culture Library (for example, picture books such as cartoons), besides, Taipei Public Library and National Taiwan Library also constructed e-book platforms, enabling parents to use electronic resources to accompany their children to continue reading.

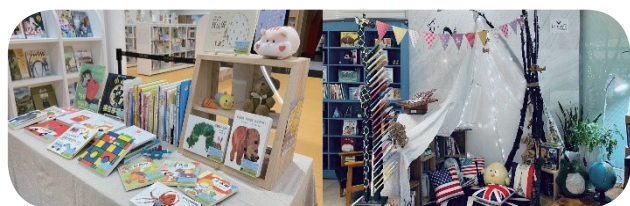
Reading intimately with parents from young age, children could learn that reading is a happy affair and have it become a habitual thing in their lives. It is sure that reading habit is cultivated from young age. Although the touring exhibition has already finished, information about it and themed books can still be found on the mentioned Website. Through this touring exhibition, the Infant Books Age Classification Theme Table was promoted to county and city libraries, and has become known to more readers and could serve as a reference tool for selection of good books. We hope that children will develop reading habit through reading with their parents, henceforth could embark on a rich and enjoyable reading journey in the future.



The Easy Selection of Infant Age-based Themed Books on Seven Major Themes for Reading Ability Growth touring exhibition webpage.



Photographs of the exhibition halls of 2nd touring exhibitions (from left to right: Kaohsiung, Taoyuan, Yilan, Miaoli).



Photographs of the exhibition halls of the 1st touring exhibitions (from left to right: Tainan, Yunlin, New Taipei City, Taitung).



Photographs of the exhibition halls of 3rd touring exhibitions (from left to right: Penghu, Hualien, Taipei, Taichung).

NCL Director-General Tseng stated that the NCL takes leadership for strategic planning for parenting reading activities. From the perspective of libraries, it is hoped that libraries can play an important role at each stage of children's lives.