## Bukit Panjang Public Library

| Fast Facts | • Opening Date: 4 April 1998  
• Floor Area: 2,300 square meters  
• Collection Size: 125,000  
• Target Community: Residents in Bukit Panjang, Bukit Timah and Teck Whye. |
| Key Highlights | • **Children's Zone**  
Playtime@Library, an unstructured play programme for children aged six and below, will be conducted at the Stories Come Alive Room every Tuesday and Sunday. During this self-guided programme, parents can make use of books and a variety of educational aids to read with their child.  

• **Interacting@BPPL**  
Bukit Panjang Public Library hosts the Chinese Book Club, “Interacting @BPPL”. It was started in December 2004 by the library’s former manager, Mrs. Ting Meng Hong, who recognised the importance and central role of mothers in bringing up children and to inculcate the reading habit in them.  

The book club was the first Chinese Book Club ever to be started at NLB. It currently meets every 3rd Wednesday of the month and is open to homemakers and the general public. |
| Design Features | The library’s design concept focuses on guiding patrons on their reading journey, and they are encouraged to go through different landscapes such as forests, mountains and ponds.  

To help visitors find their way around the library, the following features are included:  
- Coloured ribbons on the floor  
- Subject clusters on the floor and ceiling  
- Central feature displays that mark their respective sections  

• **Children's Zone**  
Bukit Panjang Public Library will pilot the Stories Come Alive Room, which makes use of images, light and sound effects to make storytelling an immersive and interactive experience for children.  

• **Book Mountain**  
The Book Mountains in both the Children’s Zone and Adults’ and Teens’ Zones are creative expressions of shelving design with a gradual ramp and varying shelf heights that allow users to look out to the rest of the library. |
### Services and Facilities

#### a) Facilities
- Multimedia stations
- Newspaper Reading Area
- Bookdrop
- Tumblebook Reader Stations
- Reservation Lockers
- e-Newspaper Reading Stations

#### b) Services
- Regular storytelling and school holiday programmes
- User education and Information literacy programmes
- Library outreaches
- Performances and activities
- Talks and workshops
- Exhibitions and displays

### Library History
Bukit Panjang Public Library was officially opened on 4 April 1998 by Dr. Teo Ho Pin, then Member of Parliament for Sembawang GRC (Bukit Panjang Division). The library is located inside Bukit Panjang Plaza, a shopping mall in the heart of Bukit Panjang. It is the fourth library to be housed in a shopping mall and the fourteenth library of the National Library Board.

The library underwent a renovation and refurbishment exercise in 2009. Improvements made include a space expansion for book displays and mini exhibitions, re-carpeting and whitewashing, the installation of motion detector lighting in the staff workroom and energy-saving light replacements for the entire library.

The library took the opportunity to undergo another renovation in 2016, as Bukit Panjang Plaza was carrying out redevelopment works. The library reopened on 1 July 2017. There is an overall increase in floor area with two separate sections, namely the Children’s Zone and the Adults’ and Teens’ Zones. The new children’s area features an immersive storytelling space.

### Interesting Facts
- The library was a prototype for the colour coding system in 1998. This system assigned a unique colour band to each letter of the alphabet or to the digits 0 to 9 and greatly reduced the time for processing and sorting of books by the staff.
- Bukit Panjang Public Library was also the first library to implement barcodes on the books' front covers to facilitate faster check-out times for library users.

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