

LIBRARY DETAILS

BEDOK PUBLIC LIBRARY

FAST FACTS

- Opening Date: 28 September 1985 (Temporarily closed on 20 August 2017)
- Re-opening date: 28 October 2017
- Floor Area: 4,150 square meters
- Collection Size: 200,000
- Target Community: Residents in Bedok North, Bedok Reservoir, Bedok South, Frankel, Kaki Bukit and Kembangan

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

ST*ART is a thematic storytelling and craft session targeted at children aged 4-8 years old. This programme encourages children to be creative through craft activities.

Designed for families to read and bond together, the Early Literacy Area features parent-toddler reading areas, and is fully accessible by pram. The Early Literacy collection can be **found here, along with our Tumblebook Reader stations.**

COLLECTION HIGHLIGHTS

Malay Collection

The Malay collection is clustered together with the rest of the Mother Tongue collections, while at the same time allocating it with a more prominent space to highlight the unique nature of the collection. A wideranging and varied selection of books in Malay is offered for adult readers. The new collection has been carefully selected to include contemporary titles that are popular amongst our readers, such as Fiction, cookery and travel books.

At the same time, we've also taken care to ensure that important/ seminal/ classic works, and works on Malay culture are reflected, as part of our efforts to encourage our users to read more widely.

The collection also includes an additional section with books on Malay culture and heritage in languages other than Malay. This encourages the larger community to appreciate and celebrate aspects of Malay culture such as history and architecture. The approach is similar to the Chinese culture collection at library@chinatown.

Early Literacy Collection

The Early Literacy Collections are shelved on low shelves, and are grouped into 5 categories: “Sense & Sensation”, “Concepts”, “Languages”, “Poetry & Rhymes” and “Emergent Reader” to help parents and caregivers select materials to support their child’s development.

LIBRARY HISTORY

Bedok Public Library was officially opened on 28 September 1985 by Prof. S Jayakumar, then Minister for Law & Foreign Affairs and Second Minister for Law. The library was the sixth branch built by the National Library Board with an opening day that saw a total attendance of 20,000 people.

The library was closed for major upgrading works, which included replacing the manual system of issuing and collection books by automated self-check machines and bookdrops, in January 2001. It was reopened on 18 November by Prof S. Jayakumar.

As part of the Remaking Our Heartlands (ROH) initiative, Bedok Public Library was invited to relocate to a new integrated complex, Heartbeat@Bedok which is a joint development comprising sports and recreational facilities, a community club, a polyclinic, an integrated daycare facility for the elderly and retail spaces for all age groups.

Bedok Public Library moved to its new premises at Heartbeat@Bedok and was officially re-opened by Dr. Yaacob Ibrahim, Minister for Communications and Information on 28 October 2017. The new library is among a suite of community services provided at Heartbeat@Bedok, and continues to serve the Bedok community.

INTERESTING FACTS

- Bedok is the Malay name for the drum (spelt *bedoh*) that was used in ‘preloudspeaker days’ to call worshippers to pray or convey important announcements or messages to the nearby villagers.
- The library is a seniors friendly space with electronic magnifier to enlarge texts, as well as keyboards with large alphabets.
- Spot the watering can and the cute animal bookshelves at Early Literacy area which is inspired by the garden and greenery design theme of the library!