

December 2024 Mini Exhibition

"Life in Prewar Japan as Seen in Children's Books"

Exhibit Description

In this mini-exhibition, we will introduce 10 materials related to "life in Japan" written for children. The contents are geography books, lifestyle and culture, essay collections that describe the daily lives of children, chronicles of annual events and customs, and buildings and scenic spots. The authors of each book write in the introduction that they wrote the book in the hope that they would make use of the knowledge they gained from the book in their lives, although the expression is different.

We hope that these materials will help you think about the life of Japan before the war and the children who grew up in their daily lives.

- ① 『児童科学地理叢書』第1編～第3編
"Jido Kagaku Chiri Sosho" 1-3
Supervised by Fusataro Kobayashi
(1872-1937)
Tokyo Published by Yubunshoin
Publication 1933.12~1934.4
Call No.ルイ 2-950 ア~ウ

The author, Mr. Kobayashi, says that the purpose of studying geography is to study rivers, mountains, Geographical phenomena such as oceans, industry, humanity, rural cities, etc. Don't just look at it as it is, for example, the river How rivers are used, etc. and use the results in daily life. And I thought it was. Based on this idea, this book A summary of geographical events.

- ② 『我等の国土』
"Warera no Kokudo"
By Keiji Tanakake (1885-1975)
Tokyo Published by Kokinshoin
Publication 1929. 11
Call No.ルヨ 2-3

The author, Mr. Tanaka, has been

working for seven years since 1923
(Taisho period 12)

In the meantime, I actually visited the local area from Hokkaido to Taiwan. He wrote in plain language what he had seen and heard. In the introduction, it says, "I want you to understand the new geographical method." However, the geographical survey is based on local interviews. He emphasized the importance of inspection.

- ③ 『生活文化史の話』
"Seikatsu Bunkashi no Hanashi"
By Mitsuji Mitsushige (1890-1968)
Tokyo Published by Kogakusha
Publication 1941.3
Call No.ルユ 2-450

The author, Mr. Minechi, practiced "life learning" in which life itself is an education in the course of teaching how to spell life, but later he conducted "local education," which is "life learning" in his hometown with a scientific perspective added as a new element. This book is a collection of materials related to the

lifestyle and culture of each region in order to put the aforementioned education into practice.

④ 『綴方子供風土記』

“Tsuzurikata Kodomo Fudoki”

Compilation by Tsubota Joji

(1890-1982)

Cover (painting) by Noma hitone

(1901-1979)

Tokyo Published by

Jitsugyo no Nihonsha

Publication 1942.7

Call No.ルカ2-604

Mr. Tsubota, the compiler, believed that it was necessary to record and preserve the legends, events, and daily life of Japan during World War II, and published 53 poems selected from 2,401 works sent by children from all over Japan.

⑤ 『風習の話』

“Fushu no Hanashi”

By Aki Nosehiro (1898-1979)

Tokyo Published by Koseikaku

Publication 1939.12

Call No.ルラ2-210イ

The author, Mr. Nose, in 1939 (Showa period 14), when considering the position of Japan in the world, I wrote this book because I thought that looking back on the "customs" that people left behind after much effort would be a clue to this.

⑥ 『郷土学習文庫 第4巻 郷土文化研究(上) 生活交通』

“Kyodo Gakushu Bunko 4 Kyodo Bunka jo Seikatsu Kotsu”

By Shigaki Hiroshi(1889-1965)

Tokyo Published Bunkashobo

Publication 1933.4

Call No.ルラ2-33エア~エオ

The author, Mr. Shigaki, wrote the book on five themes on life and transportation, hoping that this knowledge would be useful in thinking about how to improve the hometown in order to know about its nature, society, and culture in order to know about its own hometown.

⑦ 『日本の家』(少国民日本文化選書)

“Nihon no Ie”

By Fujishima Gaiichiro(1899-2002)

Painting by Iizuka Reiji (1904-2004)

Tokyo Published by Shogakukan

Publication 1943.3

Call No.ルラ4-52ア

This book introduces typical buildings and private houses in Japan in the setting of a boy named "Kunio" who becomes interested in architecture while watching the process of building his home and goes to see the ancient buildings of Kamakura, Ise, Nara, and Kyoto.

⑧ 『日本のお祭』(少国民日本文化選書)

“Nihon no Omatsuri”

By Nishitsunoi Masayoshi

(1900-1971)

Painting by Tateno Michimasa

Tokyo Published by Shogakukan

Publication 1943.12

Call No.ルラ4-52イ

This book focuses on Shinto and introduces local festivals and events.

⑨ 『日本の山水美』 (趣味の地理 第1編)

“Nihon no Sansuibi”

By Shitai Kiichi , Shimada Ushiwaka

Tokyo Published by Hakubunkan

Reprint Publication 1918.9

Initial Publication 1918.4

Call No.ルヨ2-953ア

This is a compilation of scenic spots of rivers and lakes such as Mt. Fuji, Mt. Tateyama, and Mt. Aso, as well as rivers and lakes such as Nikko's Kagon Falls, Lake Towada, and Yamaki, based on his own experience (mountaineering) and knowledge he has read in books.

⑩ 『日本の名所見物』 (趣味の地理 第3編)

By Shitai Kiichi , Shimada Ushiwaka

Tokyo Published by Hakubunkan

Publication 1918.7

Call No.ルヨ2-953ウ

This book introduces famous famous places in Japan such as Kamakura, Zenkoji Temple, Ise Jingu Shrine, and Dogo Onsen. It says that you should read this book and research the landmarks and landmarks.