



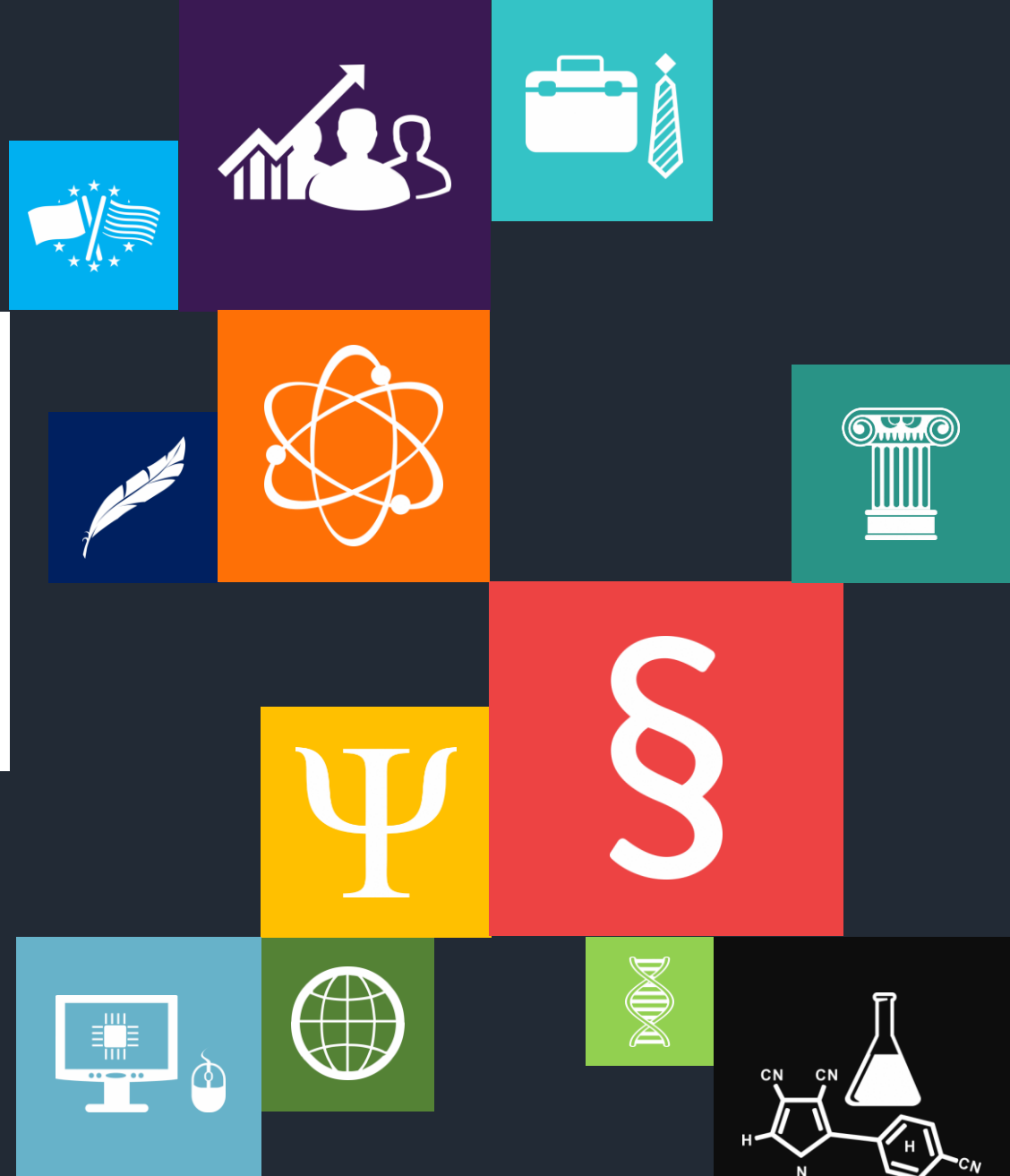
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PUBLIC LIBRARIES FOR CHILDREN IN POLAND

Current trends

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Outline

- Polish libraries for children in numbers
- Most important programs and projects supporting the development of libraries
- The division for children and youth's facilities
- Best practices





Preface

Libraries which are meant to serve every citizen in the country are under rapid transformation process. Since 1989 Polish libraries for children and youth have discovered many possibilities to gain trust in significantly new conditions, taking chances from many available funds. Libraries have changed in terms of quantity and quality, using European Union funds for creating new and innovative buildings, as well as introducing new services.





Public libraries for children in XXIst century

- diversified architecture
- diversified housing conditions
- diversified age range of users





Statistics - 2015

- total number of public libraries – 8050
- currently open – 7952
- libraries for children - branches – 172
- facilities combined with adult branch - over 500
- public-school libraries – 94
- facilities combined with other cultural institution - 1311





Statistics – readers in public libraries

	0-5 years	6-12 years	13-15 years	16-19 years	20-24 years	25-44 years	45-60 years	over 60 years
2012	2,42 %	13,54	8,93	12,24	13,81	26,67	13,81	8,58
2013	2,54 %	13,87	8,44	11,28	12,83	27,28	14,37	9,39
2014	↑ 2,66 %	↑ 14,39	↓ 8,27	↓ 10,46	↓ 11,70	↑ 27,49	↑ 14,77	↑ 10,26



Sources of funding

All public libraries in Poland are funded by the government.

- voivodship libraries – voivodship government funds
- municipal libraries – local government funds
- rural libraries – local government funds

Other sources:

- through EU programs
- Libraries Development Program
- Ministry of Culture and National Heritage



National strategies

Ministerstwo
Kultury
i Dziedzictwa
Narodowego.



Readership report (National Library of Poland)

63% of adults haven't read even 1 book in 2016

National Program of Readership Development (2014-2020)

- 26,5 mln PLN for the purchase of new books for public libraries
- annual funds for school and pedagogical libraries



Cooperation with NGOs

- Centrum Edukacji Obywatelskiej - „Kulturalnie i obywatelsko”
- Fundacja Ośrodka KARTA - „Cyfrowe Archiwa Tradycji Lokalnej”
- Fundacja Rozwoju Dzieci im. J. A. Komeńskiego - „Biblioteczne zajęcia dla dzieci i rodziców”
- Towarzystwo Inicjatyw Twórczych „ę” - „Młodzi menedżerowie kultury w bibliotekach”





Visual identification system for the libraries

In cooperation with Association of
Applied Graphic Designers



©matorstudio





Technology

94% public libraries owns computers, however...

- 57,9% - gives access to online catalogue
- 72,5% - runs own website
- 71,3% - uses library software

Despite the „statistical saturation” with computer hardware in public libraries the introduction of new technologies is too slow. That causes problems with attracting younger readers.

Luckily, libraries for children become better equipped with electronic devices, like tablets, robotics, 3D printers, coding software.





Towards multi-services

- In some cities there has been implemented a joint service system for using all public libraries, museum, galleries, movie theaters, bookstores and other culture institution
- The joint card is also applicable in shops, restaurants, cafés, language schools etc. with discounts





Wrocław – Program partnerski OK

- Partner Program OK
- since 2011





Gdańsk – Metropolitalna Karta do Kultury

- Metropolitan Card for Culture
- since January 2017





Architecture

Thanks to EU and national funds many library facilities, both city and rural, are being renovated, it helps them to become the most important culture place for the local community.

Source: <http://norwid.wkraj.pl/>





Municipal Public Library in Oświęcim



- one of the best libraries in Europe
- World Architecture News



Municipal Public Library in Rumia



- opened at the former train station
- Station Culture



Public Library in Szynwałd



- 3rd place in the plebiscite „Building of the Year 2014” (Bryła Roku 2014)



Various forms of work

Forms of work adapted to reader's age:

- book talking
- reader contests
- exhibitions
- meetings with authors
- music and art activities
- kamishibai theater
- programming



Source:
<http://swarzedz.pbp.poznan.pl/?teatr-kamishibai-nowa-forma-pracy-z-dziecmi,325>



Innovations in libraries for children

- expanding the age of users for the group of children aged 0-3
- introducing intergenerational projects
- expanding the activity offer (i.a. programming, board and computer games)
- media and information education
- family literacy
- therapy courses





Expanding the age of users for the group of children aged 0-3

- attendance of carers required
- possibility to organize meetings with specialists – pediatrician, psychologist, teacher, educator
- American standards – Family Place Libraries
- emergent literacy





Introducing intergenerational projects

- the concept of connecting 2 or more generations during joint activities
- most common – history / computer workshops

grandfather / grandmother → grandchildren





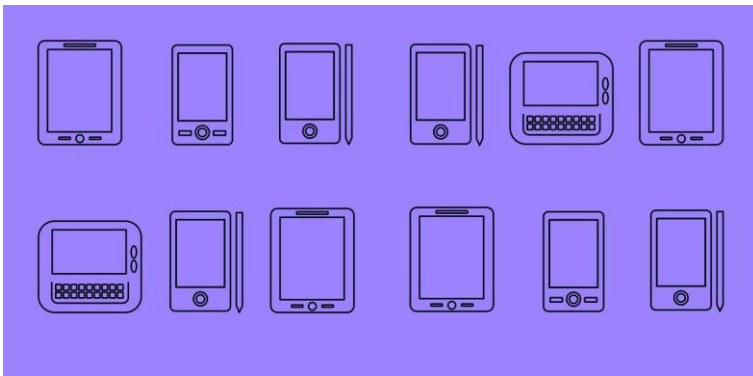
Expanding the activity offer (i.a. programming, board and computer games)

- possibility of inviting whole family for shared game
- shared learning to code
- 3D printing
- LEGO® robotics





Media and information education



- workshops for children
- workshops for parents



Family literacy

- teaching method known since the 70's of 21st century, based on the assumption that the parent is a first child's teacher
- introducing the child into the world of books starts from the first months of life at home





Therapy courses

- bibliotherapy
- arttherapy
- dog therapy





The division for children and youth's facilities

From 2004 the municipal authorities began to build media libraries, called **mediateks**, dedicated especially to young adults.

Collections as well as activities are suited for youth needs.

[IFLA Guidelines for Library Services for Young Adults](#)





Mediatek in Wrocław



- opened in 2004 as a first mediatek in Poland
- in cooperation with Bertelsmann Foundation



Mediatek in Olsztyn



- Planet 11
- Branch of Municipal Public Library



Mediatek in Opole



- 2nd floor of Municipal Public Library



Municipal Public Library in Jasło



Strefa M2 – place dedicated to young adults



Conclusions

- in the 21st century the library stopped being a static place, serving only strictly divided age groups
- more and more the main library services include activities involving the whole family and even four-legged friends
- many of the new services are dedicated to just have fun, but still the basic aim is to promote readership
- Polish libraries have changed a lot for 28 years that passed since the 1989, cooperating within European Union and with both governmental and NGO institutions
- the situation of rural libraries (serving less than 25,000 population) has improved significantly thanks to the Libraries Development Program, unfortunately leaving behind city libraries



Thank you for your attention!

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