

A photograph of a circular reading area in a library. In the center is a circular wooden table divided into four quadrants of different wood tones. Surrounding the table are several red, cylindrical ottomans. The floor is covered with a green carpet featuring black paw print patterns. In the background, there are wooden bookshelves filled with books and DVDs. The Winnipeg logo is visible in the upper center of the image.

ABORIGINAL READING-IN-THE-ROUND

Children's and Teen Services Millennium Library

The Aboriginal Reading-in-the-Round space features a collection of books, DVDs and CDs about the history, traditions, stories, and languages of Aboriginal people in our community. The Aboriginal Reading-in-the-Round is also a gathering place where school children come to learn, storytellers light the way into their imaginations, and families share their love of reading.

History

In the late 1980s, Centennial Library established a Native Studies Collection. This first collection featured dual language books written in Ojibway, Cree and English. Originally located in the multilingual area of the library, by 1992 the collection was large enough to have its own designated space. The collection grew to include not just Aboriginal languages, but also picture books, and books on tape/CD.

In 2005, Millennium Library reopened after a complete renovation of the Centennial Library. As part of the renovations the Native Studies collection was reinvigorated into an Aboriginal Resources collection. Adult materials were moved to the second floor. Children's materials were re-located on the main floor as part of a much larger designated space - the Aboriginal Reading-in-the-Round, designed by Anishinabe designer Destiny Seymour. A dedication opened the space on November 17, 2005 with storytelling, fiddling and singing. The main floor Aboriginal Reading-in-the-Round continues to hold events, from storytelling and author readings to dance and singing.



Overhead art provides childrens' visions of community.

In 2010, funding from the City Of Winnipeg Aboriginal Youth Strategy allowed Destiny Seymour to return to design an art installation that would complete the Aboriginal Reading-in-the-Round. Children from neighbourhoods in Winnipeg's West End painted the canvasses, expressing their vision of 'community'. This art project brought people together, encouraging them to take ownership of their communities while promoting cross-cultural education. Partners in the project were Art City, along with the imaginative children of the Orioles Community Centre and the Magnus Eliason Recreation Centre.

Quick Facts

about the Aboriginal
Reading-in-the-Round
area

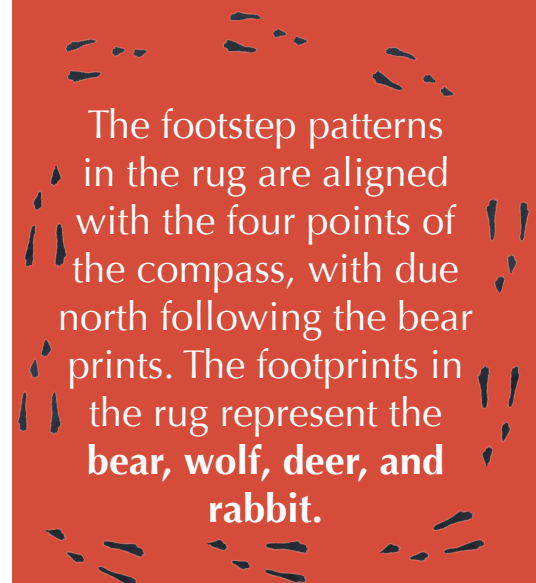
Number of items: 2000

Formats available:

Picture Books
Board Books
Early Readers
Juvenile Fiction
Teen Fiction
Folk Tales and
Legends
Non-Fiction
DVDs
CDs

Other libraries with children's and adult Aboriginal Resources Collections:

Sir William Stephenson
St. John's
West End



The footstep patterns
in the rug are aligned
with the four points of
the compass, with due
north following the bear
prints. The footprints in
the rug represent the
**bear, wolf, deer, and
rabbit.**