

Presentation of a Bachelor thesis: "Childrens pop-ups"

Kristine Suhr

The Royal Danish Academy of fine Arts, School of Conservation

Pop-up books are special category of childrens books, with different types of mechanical paper constructions inside. They are defined in the following way:

"Mechanical books should look like ordinary books. Their success is to be measured by the ingenuity with which their bookish format conceals unbookish characteristics"⁽¹⁾.

In my final project I have worked with the following subjects:

- History of pop-up books.
- Pop-up books in Denmark.
- Printing techniques used in pop-up books.
- Different types of bindings used.
- Different types of mechanical constructions.
- Chronological list of various constructions.
- General mechanical damages.
- Restoration of 4 pop-up books, chosen according to their different mechanical constructions.

The practical part of the project work has mainly concentrated on different types of mechanical damages, which are the most common problem with these kind of books. The consequences of the mechanical damages are that the constructions either does not work properly or does not work at all. Therefore, the reader do not get the full experience of the idea of the book.

¹ From "The Renier Collection of Historic and Contemporary Children's Books - Movable Books", Spring 1988 - Bethnal Green Museum of Childhood, London, p. 1.