

# The Japan Foundation / JBBY

にほんのえほん  
Japanese Picture Books



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## Bologna Children's Book Fair 2026

A selection of Japanese children's books will be on display at the JF & JBBY Joint Booth, Hall 29-C15.

### The Japan Ragazzi Selection

This experimental selection of Japanese children's books, made by the JBBY Selection Committee, is based on the six categories defined for the BRAW, Bologna Ragazzi Awards 2026.

The 62 titles showcase innovation and quality across the wide range of picture book publications in Japan.  
(The descriptions of each category are as quoted directly from the BCBF website.)

- Fiction
- Opera Prima
- Toddler
- Non-Fiction
- Comics
- Fables & Fairy Tales

Chapter Books & Novels for Young People

nihon  
ehon

JAPAN FOUNDATION   
JBBY

"nihon no ehon" logo design by Katsumi KOMAGATA, 2017.

# The Japan Ragazzi Selection

## Comics

"This section includes three subsections:

EARLY READER (ages 6 to 9), MIDDLE GRADE (ages 9 to 12)

and YOUNG ADULT (13 years and up) and

is dedicated to comics and graphic novels."

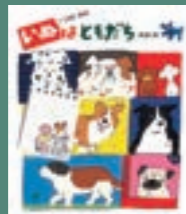
### Age 6-9



**It Might Be True**  
もしかすといえるかもね  
Text/Ill. Hiroshi ITOU  
DOSHINSHA PUBLISHING CO., LTD I  
2025 I 32pp I  
ISBN 978-4-4940-2344-8  
R: All rights available  
C: Mr. Koji INOUE  
(Public Relations  
and Promotion Dept.)  
k\_inoue@doshinsha.co.jp



**What's That Sound?**  
ゴロゴロゴロゴロ なんのおと?  
Text/Ill. Yuichi YOKOYAMA  
PIE International Inc. I 2024 I  
36pp I ISBN 978-4-7562-5869-4  
R: All rights available  
C: Ms. Eriko HARA (International Division)  
hara@pie.co.jp  
Stand No. Hall26-A174



**I Love Dogs**  
いぬはともだち  
Text/Ill. Jun TAKABATAKE  
Kosei Publishing Company I  
2025 I 32pp I  
ISBN 978-4-3330-2933-4  
R: All rights available  
C: Mr. Yoshihide FUJIMOTO  
(Editorial Dept.)  
y-fujimoto  
@kosei-shuppan.co.jp



**What Happened When I Drew a Circle**  
まるがかけたら  
Text/Ill. Miho TAKEDA  
Rironsha Co.,Ltd I 2025 I 48pp I  
ISBN 978-4-6522-0710-9  
R: All rights available  
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rights@rironsha.co.jp

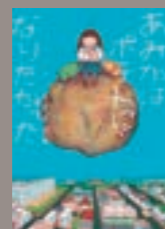


**Huh?**  
あれ?  
Text/Ill. unpis  
Shogakukan.inc I 2024 I 32pp I  
ISBN 978-4-0972-5284-9  
R: All rights available  
C: Mr. Shin KOMATSU  
(Cross-Media  
Business Division)  
rights\_inquiry  
@shogakukan.co.jp  
Stand No. Hall29-B22

### Age 13-



**TAMON's Queer Friends** (in two volumes)  
多聞さんのおかしなともだち 上・下  
Text/Ill. Toi Yoh  
KADOKAWA CORPORATION I 2025 I 210pp/218pp I  
ISBN 978-4-0473-8425-5/ ISBN 978-4-0473-8426-2  
R: French  
C: Ms. Shoko SUZUKI (Global Licensing Division)  
suzuki-sho@kadokawa.jp  
Stand: Comics Corner: Hall30-D30, E29, F27



**Amika Wanted to Be a Potato: Short Stories**  
by OGAWA Shirasu  
あみかはポテトになりたいかった  
小川しらす作品集  
Text/Ill. Shirasu OGAWA  
LEED Publishing Co., Ltd. I 2025 I  
198pp I ISBN 978-4-8458-6793-6  
R: All rights available  
C: Ms. Asumi USHIODA  
(Cross-Media)  
ushioda@lee.do.jp



**Momotaro Stories: taro and TARO**  
太郎とTARO  
Text/Ill. Kogani OSHIRO  
LEED Publishing Co., Ltd. I 2024 I 64pp I  
ISBN 978-4-8458-6774-5  
R: All rights available  
C: Ms. Asumi USHIODA  
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ushioda@lee.co.jp

### Age 9-13



**The Story of Siro and Melo's World**  
シロとメロの世界のはなし  
Text/Ill. aketarasirome  
BNN I 2024 I 192pp I  
ISBN 978-4-8025-1317-3  
R: All rights available  
C: BNN Sales Dept.  
nishitay@bnn.co.jp



**The Coffee Shop Without a Sign**  
かんぽんのないコーヒーや  
Text/Ill. Akiko KAMEOKA  
Help Shuppan Publications, Ltd. I  
2024 I 40pp I ISBN 978-4-5931-0423-9  
R: Chinese (Simplified), Korean  
C: Ms. Noe ISHIHARA (Editorial Dept.)  
ishihara@help-pub.co.jp



**The Bouquet and the Pencil**  
花束と鉛筆  
Text/Ill. Yuka OSADA  
Kobunsha Co., Ltd. I 2025 I  
112pp I ISBN 978-4-3341-0601-0  
R: All rights available  
C: Ms. Kei FUKUROUMIYA  
(IP/Rights Business Dept.)  
kei-owlpalace@kobunsha.com



**What Does "I'm Working" Mean?**  
しごとってなんだろう  
Text/Ill. Tenten HOSOKAWA  
KODANSHA Ltd. I 2024 I 36pp I  
ISBN 978-4-0653-5969-3  
R: All rights available  
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Stand No. Hall29-B14

## Opera Prima (DEBUT WORK)

"This category is reserved for works in which the illustrator is publishing for the first time, i.e., publishing their first book. Eligible submissions include:

– works by both debut author and debut illustrator,

– or by a debut illustrator and an author who has previously published.

Works where only the author is making their publishing debut are not eligible.

The aim of the category is to acknowledge innovative projects

and the research they entail."



**A Mischievous Watermelon Seed**  
すいかのたね  
Text/Ill. Tatsuki OSHIMOTO  
Bronze Publishing Inc. I 2025 I  
28pp I ISBN 978-4-8930-9744-6  
R: All rights available  
C: Ms. Kayoko MITA  
(Foreign Rights Director)  
foreignrights@bronze.co.jp  
Stand No. Hall29-A1



**The White Picture Book**  
しろのえほん  
Text Hana MARUME  
Ill. Yasuko MARUO  
DOSHINSHA PUBLISHING  
CO., LTD I 2025 I 24pp I  
ISBN 978-4-4940-2257-1  
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Promotion Dept.)  
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**Yo! Shopping Street Rap**  
ようようしょうてんが  
い  
Text Roy TAMAKI  
Ill. Kanako FURUGORI  
Fukuinkan Shoten Publishers, Inc. I  
2025 I 32pp I  
ISBN 978-4-8340-8884-7  
R: All rights available  
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Stand No. Hall29-C13



**Nora the Stray Cat**  
のらねこノラ  
Text/Ill. Izumi SUGE  
Poplar Publishing Co., Ltd. I  
2025 I 32pp I  
ISBN 978-4-5911-8727-2  
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**Aru SASAKI**  
Designer/ 10Inc.

# Fiction

“Dedicated to fictional works of stories or fables in the form of picture books or publications whose illustrations are the predominant feature. BolognaRagazzi Award is not a literary prize. Novels and short stories shall not be taken into consideration by the Jury.”



**Children on This Planet**  
この星の子ども  
Text/III. Hisanori YOSHIDA  
Akaneshobo Publishing Co., Ltd. I  
2024 | 34pp |  
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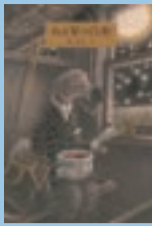
**The Same Sounds Every Morning**  
いつものあさのあいいうえお  
Text/III. Makoto UEDA  
Akaneshobo Publishing Co., Ltd. I  
2025 | 64pp |  
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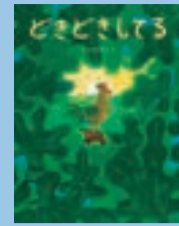
**Brown Bears**  
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Text/III. Hiroshi ABE  
Bronze Publishing Inc. I  
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**A Thousand Toads and a Thousand Chars**  
ガマ千匹き イワナ千匹き  
Text Ipppei MOGAMI  
III. The Cabin Company  
Bunkodo Co., Ltd. I 2025 | 32pp |  
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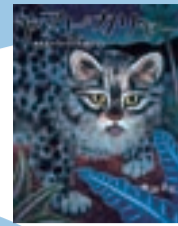
**A Train on a Planet**  
ある星の列車  
Text/III. Yoko MORI  
Fukuinkan Shoten Publishers, Inc. I  
2025 | 48pp |  
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**Hearts Beating Fast**  
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Text/III. Tae TAKEGAMI  
KAISEI-SHA Publishing Co., Ltd. I  
2025 | 32pp |  
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C: Ms. Yuko NONAKA  
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**The Fox Tree**  
きつねの木  
Text/III. Eriko ISHIKAWA  
KODANSHA Ltd. I 2025 |  
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**Yamapikarya: The Wildcat on Iriomote Island**  
ヤマビカリヤ  
西表島のヤマネコのおはなし  
Text/III. Takehiro KARUBE  
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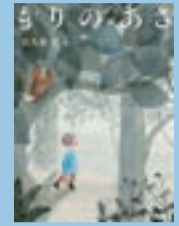
**Let's Play the Drum!**  
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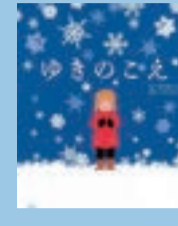
**This Is How We Live Together**  
こうして、ともに いきている  
Text/III. Mitsuhiro TAYA  
CHOUJUNSHA PUBLISHING,  
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空はみんなのもの  
Text Gianni RODARI  
Translation Eiko SEKIGUCHI  
III. Ryuji ARAI  
Holp Shuppan Publications, Ltd. I  
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**The Morning in the Forest**  
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Text/III. Iku DEKUNE  
KAISEI-SHA Publishing Co., Ltd. I  
2025 | 32pp |  
ISBN 978-4-0335-0330-1  
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C: Ms. Yuko NONAKA  
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Stand No. Hall29-B18



**The Voice of the Snow**  
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Text Yuko OHNARI  
III. Koshiro HATA  
KODANSHA Ltd. I 2024 |  
32pp | ISBN 978-4-0653-7471-9  
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**Naran Is a Chubby Girl**  
ナランはふとっちょまさん  
Text/III. Bolama BAASANSUREN  
Kougakutoho.Co.Ltd I 2025 |  
32pp | ISBN 978-4-7692-0516-6  
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**I'm Glad to See...**  
よかったなあ  
Poetry Michio MADO  
III. AZUMIMUSHI  
Rironsha Co.,Ltd I 2024 | 32pp |  
ISBN 978-4-3322-6145-6  
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**Human Tears**  
ひとのなみだ  
Text Rintarou UCHIDA  
III. nakaban  
DOSHINSHA PUBLISHING  
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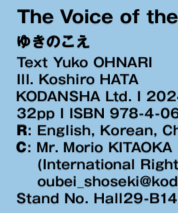
**meramera: Flame**  
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Text/III. Nana INOUE  
Iwasaki Publishing Co., Ltd. I  
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森のうたがきこえる  
Text/III. Seizo TASHIMA  
Leuthmany Insiengmay  
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**Animals Transform into Working Trucks**  
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# Toddler

“This BRAW category is reserved for board books published for infants and very young children (0 to 3 years). Titles first published as picturebooks and subsequently as board books shall not be accepted as candidates for this category.”



**Nice and Snug**  
ひつたりこ  
Text Ryo KISAKA  
III. Kenji OKAWA  
Fukuinkan Shoten  
Publishers, Inc. I 2025 | 20pp |  
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**Tokkun**  
どつくん  
Text/III. Katsumi KOMAGATA  
Fukuinkan Shoten Publishers, Inc. I 2024 | 22pp  
R: All rights available  
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**Hi, Cat.**  
What Time Is It?  
ねこちゃん いまなんじ?  
Text/III. umao  
KENELE BOOKS | 2024 |  
24pp | ISBN 978-4-9103-1545-4  
R: All rights available  
C: Mr. Kenji IGARASHI  
(Publishing Dept.)  
info.books@kenelephant.co.jp



**TSUNHEN-CHAN**  
つんへんちゃん  
Text/III. Keiko SHIBATA  
Shogakukan, Inc. I 2025 | 26pp |  
ISBN 978-4-0973-5368-3  
R: Chinese (Complex)  
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Stand No. Hall29-B22

# Non-Fiction

“This section shall include publications providing general or special information on any area of knowledge, science, history, music, current affairs, art or any other topic broadening the learning experience, including biographies.”



**Then the Gate Opened: The Story of Honen the Holy Priest**  
そのとき門はひらかれた  
法然上人ものがたり  
Text/III. Gaku NAKAGAWA  
Alicekan Ltd. I 2024 | 42pp |  
ISBN 978-4-7520-1073-9  
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(Editorial Dept.)  
nishida@alicekan.com



**Transporting a Megalith: Over the Seas to Osaka Castle**  
巨石運搬！海をこえて大阪城へ  
Text/III. Ayumi KAMATA  
Alicekan Ltd. I 2024 | 36pp |  
ISBN 978-4-7520-1121-7  
R: All rights available  
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nishida@alicekan.com



**What the Children Drew—Art from Gaza and Tokyo**  
みんなで見えたこどものえ  
Text Shiho KIKUCHI  
III. Amigos KOIKE  
Compass Rose Editions LLC I  
2024 | 32pp |  
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**Fishbones, Fishbones!**  
きかたをたべたあどのほね  
Text/III. Yasumi KATO  
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Stand No. Hall29-C13



**Japanese New Year Dishes**  
おせち  
Text/III. Yumi UCHIDA  
Food preparation  
Kiniko MITSUDOME  
Subject matter supervision  
Yasuko MIURA  
Fukuinkan Shoten  
Publishers, Inc. I 2024 | 32pp |  
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**Time Is a Friend**  
じかんは ともたち  
Text/III. Akemi TEZUKA  
KAISEI-SHA Publishing Co., Ltd. I  
2025 | 36pp |  
ISBN 978-4-0335-2210-4  
R: Chinese (Complex), Korean  
C: Ms. Yuko NONAKA  
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Stand No. Hall29-B18



**Japan Is Currently at War -Children During the Pacific War-**  
いま、日本は戦争をしている  
—太平洋戦争のときの子どもたち—  
Text/III. Rimako HORIKAWA  
Komine Shoten I 2025 | 128pp |  
ISBN 978-4-3380-2210-1  
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**Growing Wings in the Sea**  
海でつばさを手に入れる  
Text Gen NAKAMURA  
III. Yoshitaka MINOYA  
Rironsha Co.,Ltd I 2025 | 31pp |  
ISBN 978-4-6522-0688-1  
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**Rice for a Day**  
いちにおこめ  
Text Akihito FUKUJE  
III. Nanae KAWASHIMA  
PHP Institute, Inc. I 2025 |  
32pp | ISBN 978-4-5698-8232-1  
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**A Tour of Hell**  
—A New Jigoku Zoshi  
ようこそ じごくへ  
Text Yukiko HIROMATSU  
III. 100%ORANGE  
Tamagawa University Press I  
2024 | 34pp |  
ISBN 978-4-4720-5995-7  
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(Director, Publication)  
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# Fables & Fairy Tales

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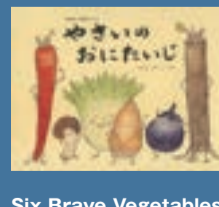
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