ABOUT US

The Leibniz Institute for Educational Media | Georg Eckert Institute (GEI) conducts research into the production, content and use of textbooks and digital educational media. True to its mission statement, ‘We change perspectives’, the Institute plays a key role in further developing educational media and in debates with high social relevance. Ensuring research findings are communicated effectively has a high priority for the GEI.

The Institute provides transfer services for domestic and international education policy makers, educators and educational media producers. It is a member of the Leibniz Association and advises UNESCO, the EU, the Council of Europe and other international organisations.

THE VILLA

The Villa von Bülow was built in 1839 by Carl Theodor Ottmer. Prior to being taken over by the GEI the building had had numerous different owners and had eventually fallen into disrepair after many years of standing empty. It was completely renovated between 1979 and 1981 and inaugurated as the Georg Eckert Institute’s new home in 1982. The current Georg Eckert Campus, comprising the Villa, the research library and the Margarete Rothbarth building, opened its doors in September 2022 following extensive construction work.
THE FOYER

The Villa von Bülow fulfils an important function in the region and far beyond as a meeting point between academia and the general public. The exhibition area in the foyer takes visitors on a multimedia journey through the history of educational media and of the Institute, and provides an insight into the research work conducted by the GEI and the world of educational media for schools in general.

THE EXHIBITION IN THE FOYER IS DIVIDED INTO FIVE AREAS

Temporary exhibitions
The temporary exhibitions showcase work resulting from the Institute’s activities that has high social significance. The current presentation shows the work of the German-Polish Textbook Commission and the joint German-Polish textbook.

Multi-touch table
Let your imagination run free with the multiple possibilities offered by this interactive table as you digitally design your own classroom.

VR Station
Who hasn’t wanted to dive into another world? The VR headsets allow you to visit historic exhibitions or to playfully explore historical topics.

The interactive media wall
This part of the exhibition provides a history of the Institute and its home, the Villa von Bülow, and the story of its founder, Georg Eckert. A particular highlight is the fascinating timeline illustrating the history of educational media since the stone age.

The interactive media tables
Four media tables provide an insight into different aspects of the Institute. You can see and hear facts and figures about the GEI or take a virtual tour with members of staff. Alternatively, you can listen to people from all around the world talk on the subject of textbooks or you can learn about the incredible diversity of classrooms in different regions and cultures.

• All information is available in German and English.
• Summaries are available in Braille.
• Each station has at least one set of headphones and the media wall has speakers providing an audio recording of the information.
• The digital texts are available in two font sizes.