

**NOTICE: This is a simple manual for treating library materials in general based on cases in the National Diet Library. When you treat rare books or severely damaged materials, we recommend you consult an expert in conservation treatment.**

## Drying wet materials 1

Drying partially wet or damp materials with absorbent paper and a fan.



### Examples of water damage

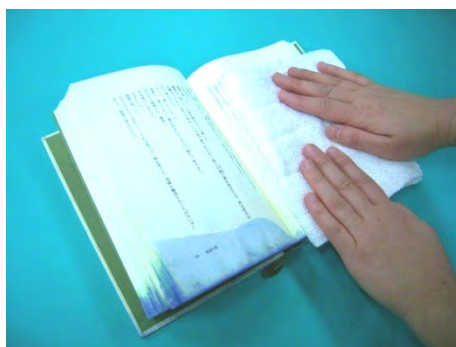
- Glass water spills
- Plumbing breaks in stacks
- Sprinkler malfunction
- Roof leaks, immersion
- ...etc

※Colored water is used to demonstrate the wet part.



### Necessary items

- Towels (absorbent material preferable)
- Absorbent paper (non-colored paper to copying paper, etc.)
- Fan
- Boards (drawing boards, cutter mats, chopping blocks, etc.)
- Weight stone



1. Check wet part and dab away moisture with a towel.



Be careful not to interleave too much, or the volume will be distorted.

2. Interleave material with absorbent paper, and stand it in a wet-part-up position.

Unstandable thin materials should be laid flat.



3. Aim a fan with adequate wind level, and provide good air circulation. Unstandable materials must be fanned flat.



4. Replace the absorbent paper when it becomes wet. Repeat the process 2-3 until materials are half-dry (not cool to the touch).



5. Remove the absorbent paper, and sandwich materials between boards. Insert a sheet of paper between a material and a board to avoid sticking. A weight stone will help prevent pages from waving or being distorted.



6. While drying, check sometimes (once every day) to see if pages are not stuck together.

### 😊😊😊 Key points 😊😊😊

- If there is a possibility of mold infection, isolate and separately dry the material in question from other materials and stacks to prevent spread of contamination. Later on, stroke off the moldy substance attaching to materials using disinfectant ethanol. (See “Cleaning mold-damaged materials” for cleaning method.)
- Coated paper, often used for graphic books, easily sticks together. Inserting a paddle can separate them to some extent, but could damage the surface of the paper. Careful decision is needed when doing this.
- When you use a dryer, fan with cool air, not warm air.