

Ithra Children Book Fair Factsheet

About the Children's Book Fair

Overview:

The Children's Book Fair is a comprehensive cultural platform dedicated to children aged 4 to 14, aiming to instill a love of reading and offer an interactive experience that combines books with creative activities. The annually organized fair brings together top authors and publishers from around the world. It is a valuable opportunity to promote a culture of reading from an early age through innovative programming.

Fair Objectives:

- Promote cultural dialogue among children and society.
- Instill the importance of book fairs in children from an early age.
- Support the formation of knowledge awareness and promote children's literature as a sector.
- Provide a reliable and diverse source of children's books across various languages and genres.

International Participation:

Each edition of the fair includes a special showcase of children's literature from around the world. Previous countries showcased include:

- **Belgium:** Participated in 2021
- **Sweden:** Participated in 2022
- **France:** Participated in 2023
- **Egypt:** Participated in 2024
- **South Korea:** Will participate in 2025

About the 5th Edition of the Children's Book Fair

Overview:

The 5th edition will take place at Ithra from **14–19 July 2025**. The program includes:

- 19 interactive events and sessions designed for children, including:
 - Interactive storytelling sessions tailored to various age groups
 - Educational discussions with a selection of experts in children's literature
 - Panel sessions on innovation and cultural identity
 - Book signings with prominent Arabic-language children's authors
 - Meet-the-author sessions with leading children's literature writers
 - Activities that promote bilingual reading and cultural diversity

- 20 local and international publishing houses specializing in children's literature
- Participants from European, Arab, and Asian countries
- Participation from notable institutions including: King Abdulaziz Public Library, King Salman Global Academy for Arabic Language, Abu Dhabi Children's Library and House of Wisdom in Sharjah
- Parallel educational programming for ages 16+

The full program is available on Ithra's website [here](#).

About South Korea's Participation In This Edition:

- South Korea is the Guest of Honour for the 5th edition of the Children's Book Fair.
- A dedicated pavilion will showcase Korean publications translated into English.
- A workshop led by Korean author and artist Han Damhee, featuring:
 - The craft of creating miniature books
 - Making and decorating traditional hand fans

Key Panel Sessions in This Edition:

- **How Do We Awaken Questions Through Storytelling?**
Date: July 15, 2025
- **When a Child Reads As A Philosopher**
Date: July 16, 2025
- **Cultural Institutions' Efforts on Building the Arab Child's Identity**
Date: July 17, 2025
- **Innovation in Children's Literature**
Date: July 18, 2025
- **Bilingual Reading and Its Impact on Child Development**
Date: July 19, 2025