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Workshops add to the appeal of book fair in city

Municipal school students along with other students learn to draw cartoons

Origami, mask making, 'author your own story book' etc are part of the fair

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For the first time, workshops have been lined up at the Ahmedabad National Book Fair. The fourth edition of the fair commenced on Friday at Gujarat University Convention Hall. Though the book fair this year has a lower number of stalls dedicated to books, a more attractive feature is the various workshops organised across seven days.

This year along with around 300 book stalls (according to AMC website), there are events like youth literary talk session, children activities, art and craft activities, author's corner, sufi sangeet, laughter evening and Hindi 'hasya kavi sammelan'.

The various workshop and events being organised at the book fair will be hosted on different days. These include Origami, mask making, 'author your own story book' and also an event 'Meet the Author' which will give readers the opportunity to meet some of the authors. We are featuring a few of events and workshops held on day one, Friday.

Blogging workshop by literary club Satori

The workshop 'Blog, Blogger and Blogging' was organised on day one. It was conducted by Ranjani Shastry, Punit Agrawal and Nikita Dudani. The workshop had three sessions, 'what is a blog' 'how to make a blog' and 'how to share a blog'.

Ranjani Shastri spoke about the history of Blog, Punit Agrawal talked on the procedures of blog posting and Nikita Dudani explained the method of making a blog. The students of Delhi Public School (DPS) were also present there. "I love to read books and books are like my best friends. I'm very much interested in gaining knowledge and attend this type of workshops for awareness," said Devanshi, class XI student, DPS. Another student of Delhi Public School, Krushant of class XI says "Books help increase knowledge and it's also about enjoyment."

Cartoon workshop for children

A cartoon making workshop was organised at the fair where Ahmedabad Municipal School students along with other students learnt to draw cartoons. The workshop was hosted as a tribute to R K Lakshman, by Abid Surti – an award-winning author and cartoonist.

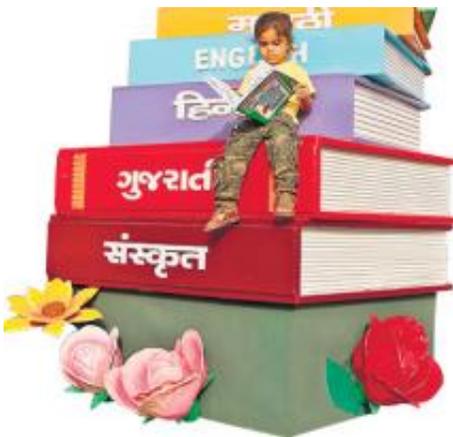
Cartoonist at the book fair

Exhibition of caricatures of Gujarati writers and poets is organised for the first time in city by Nirmish Thaker, engineer, ONGC. "Exhibitions of cartoons are very common but I drew caricatures of literary persons, which is new. Today is Gujarat Day, so I especially exhibited the caricatures of Gujarati writers and poets," said Nirmish. There were totally 179 caricatures displayed in the hall. The exhibition includes the caricatures of famous personalities like Tarak Mehta, Mahatma Gandhi, Chandrakant Bakshi, Madhu Rai, Narayan Desai, Rajendra Shah and Pannalal Patel.

Gujarati Lexicon launches two new features on its website

'Explore Gujarat' a part of Gujarati Lexicon was launched at the Ahmedabad Book Fair on Friday. "The section Explore Gujarat in the website, is divided into three parts namely 'about Gujarat', 'Gujarati books', 'Gujarati film and play.' The books section has over 100 books in various genres like travelogue, romance and suspense. The film and play section has details of about 15 movies currently but we will add more soon. The movies section also has details like who sang a particular song in a movie," said Maitri Shah, developer of the feature.

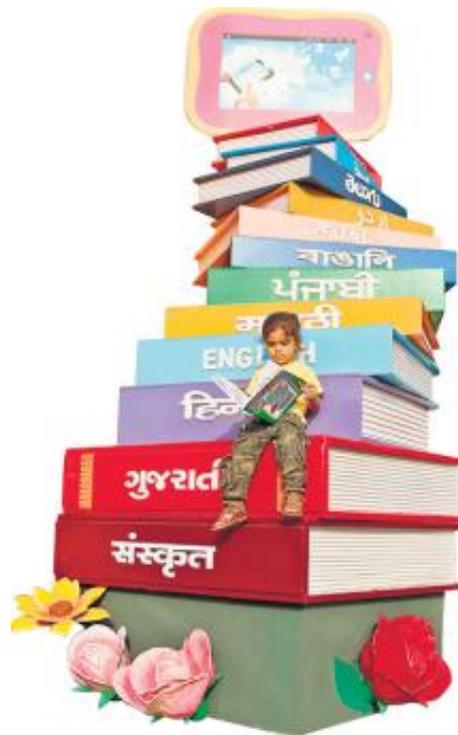
Along with Explore Gujarat, the website also launched another feature for the web version called 'Typing Master', where one can learn typing in three different languages- English, Hindi and Gujarati. An app named Gujarat Quotes for Windows phone was also launched at the book fair.



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