

Record-Breaking Writers



Pictured: Saeed Rashed AlMheiri and AIDhabi AlMheiri **Source:** Guinness World Records @GWR Twitter page

An author from United Arab Emirates has broken two world records before the age of five as he publishes a sequel to his first book! He now holds the records for the youngest person to publish a book and youngest person to publish a book series (male). Saeed Rashed AlMheiri, published his first book, *The Elephant Saeed and the Bear*, in March when he was just 4 years and 218 days old. Describing the story Saeed says, 'The elephant wanted to have a picnic on a mountain. He met a polar bear who, instead of eating the elephant, chooses to become his friend.' Amazingly

he then wrote a sequel to the book when he was 4 years and 238 days - only 20 days later! The second book in the series, called *My True Friend*, tells the story of what happens next. 'My book teaches children how to be kind.' Saeed says, 'When I grow up, I want to be a scientist and a superhero to save the Earth.' Saeed isn't the only record holder in his family, his sister, AIDhabi AlMheiri, is the youngest person to publish a bilingual book series (female) at the age of 8 years and 239 days old. **Would you like to write a book? Do you have a great story idea?**

Wonderwoods Vertical Forest

Europe's latest vertical forest is taking shape in Utrecht in the Netherlands. A vertical forest is created by adding vegetation to the exterior of a building, usually so that you can add to the greenery in a built-up area. Wonderwoods Utrecht will reportedly dampen city noise, provide summer shade, absorb CO2, and attract animal species to the Dutch city. The tower, which contains around 200 apartments, is situated in the fourth-largest city in the Netherlands. It was designed by award-winning Italian architect Stefano Boeri, who built his first vertical forest in Milan, Italy, ten years ago. The architect's website describes the amazing building; 'The facades of the tower will host about 10,000 plants from 30 different species, equivalent to one hectare of forest vegetation resulting in a genuine urban ecosystem capable of producing about 41 tons of oxygen each year. On the ground floor and connected to a garden on the sixth floor, is the Vertical Forest Hub: a centre for documentation and research into urban forestation worldwide.'

Would you like to see more buildings like this one? Would you like to design a building? What would it look like?



Pictured: The Wonderwoods Vertical Forest **Source:** Stefano Boeri @StefanoBoeri Twitter page