

“Life is better with Trees” Schools competition

national
tree day

PLANET ARK

TOYOTA
toyotahybrid.com.au

**Create! Discover!
Learn and have fun!**

The situation

It is the Year 2030. Things have changed in Australia. The main source of power generation is by solar and wind and the widespread use of hybrid and electric cars has meant that pollution is greatly reduced. Medical advances have been great and many diseases have been eradicated. But somehow as a nation, we have forgotten the value of our trees. There are less green spaces and very few people know how to plant new trees or care for the ones we have left. Native animals are struggling to find homes to live, and our waterways are not as clear as they used to be. Many children now play in a virtual online world not in the outside world

It is time to embark on a major public awareness campaign that “Life is better with Trees”

Your job is to persuade your selected audience that “Life is better with Trees”

How does the competition work?

Stage 2 & 3 – Years 3, 4, 5 & 6

Students can work in a team to create a communications piece about how trees can make a positive impact – on people, animals, their local community, children’s wellbeing - whatever angle the students would like to take.

Teams need to choose both their method of communication and the audience to whom they will deliver the message

Potential audiences:

- School students
- Local café
- Hybrid car owners
- Shoppers at a supermarket
- Members of Parliament, local councillors
- Local sports club
- Local community
- Gamers

Potential methods of communication:

- Website
- Brochure
- Back panel of a milk carton sold in supermarkets
- Community boardwalk
- Calendar
- Bookmark

- TV ad (video)
- Posters
- Petitions, letters
- Letterbox drop

Stage 1 – Years K, 1 & 2

The competition is simplified for Stage 1 students. They can enter any format they choose to express the concept that “Life is better with Trees”

How

Entries can be received in any format including but not limited to poster sequence, comic strip, drawings/painting, digital media, video, puppet play or other theatre (a video of this would need to be entered)

Please note all entries must be mailed or emailed into Planet Ark, PO Box 4, Wentworth Falls NSW 2782 at the cost of the entering team.

Judging Criteria

The full judging criteria are available on our website at treeday.planetark.org/competitions

When

Entries must be received by Friday October 29 2010

Prizes

Kindly donated by Tetra Pak Australia we have \$10 000 worth of cash prizes for your school!

Overall winning entry

Wins a \$2500 cash prize for your school & original artwork from the children’s book *Last Tree in the City* - Peter Carnavas

Finalists Stage 1, 2 & 3

Wins \$1000 cash prize for your school (*1 per stage: 3 in total)

Runner up entries

Wins \$500 cash prize for your school (*3 per stage: 9 in total)

All entries

E-Book download for your school of *Last Tree in the City* - Peter Carnavas



Links to support material

Children and Nature Network

www.childrenandnature.org

This website has a wide range of downloadable resources and research publications detailing how exploring the outdoors benefits children, the social impact it has on their lives as well as the mental and physical health benefits.

Children, Nature and You

www.childrennatureandyou.org

Children, Nature and You is part of Hooked on Nature – a network of individuals and organisations dedicated to instilling children with a love and respect for the Earth. Provides links to articles and other websites that show the importance of children involving themselves with nature.

Children's Nature Institute – The Evidence

www.childrensnatureinstitute.org/aboutus

Gives information about how environmental education can improve the lives of children in a range of ways.

Outdoor Nature Child

www.outdoor-nature-child.com

Nature stories, games and activities.

Early Childhood Australia – Every Child Magazine

www.earlychildhoodaustralia.org.au/every_child_magazine/about_every_child.html

Every Child Magazine, developed by Early Childhood Australia, is a downloadable magazine that puts the spotlight on the early years of childhood, providing informative articles on health, education, and social trends.

Click on the link below to read 'Mudpies and daisy chains – connecting young children and nature', an article from Every Child Magazine Spring 2004 issue.

www.earlychildhoodaustralia.org.au/every_child_magazine/every_child_index/mud_pies_and_daisy_chains_connecting_young_children_and_nature.html

The Natural Playgrounds Company

www.naturalplaygrounds.com/articles.php

Provides a range of research articles detailing the benefits of green space for children.

White Hutchinson – Leisure and Learning Group

www.whitehutchinson.com/children/articles

List of articles (most downloadable) about childcare, children's learning and play environments.

Earthplay Network

www.earthplay.net

Provides articles and studies about how to create suitable play environments that connect children with nature as well as the effects it has on children and their learning.

Nature Play WA

www.natureplaywa.org.au

This site has heaps of ideas for activities and adventures – in your backyard, around your neighbourhood, and across Perth and Western Australia.

The aim of Nature Play WA is to help parents help their children make the most of outdoor activities involving the bush, beach, and national and neighbourhood parks.

Nature Rocks

www.naturerocks.org

This site will help you find all sorts of nature activities, plus tools to help guide and plan your adventures. It will show you exactly why nature rocks. You'll also find useful tips and information to help you get into nature without getting over your head.

NGIA – KidsGrow

www.ngia.com.au/Category?Action=View&Category_id=444

The KidsGrow resources show how sustainable living helps cultivate not only plants and animals, but also the academic, personal and interpersonal skills of the students who participate in it.

Life is a Garden

www.lifeisagarden.com.au

Life is a garden is a gardening site for everyone; garden novices, green thumbs, and everyone in between. It aims to inspire you, inform you and help you to get out and get gardening.

Tetra Pak

www.tetrapak.com/environment

The main raw material in Tetra Pak packages is paperboard, which comes from a smart source – the forest. Trees play a vital role in binding carbon and creating oxygen, and as a resource it re-grows. Once trees are harvested, they are



soon replaced by new ones aimed to provide a source of material in the future.

Australian Museum

www.australianmuseum.net.au

The Australian Museum not only offers an interactive learning experience to its visitors in Sydney but also a great online resource to help people learn about the Australian environment and its wildlife.

Wild Kids – Australian Museum

www.australianmuseum.net.au/Wild-Kids

This a section of the website designed for students to explore native wildlife and habitats.

Wild Classrooms

www.thewildclassroom.com

Providing quality videos for teachers to use in the classroom.

Sustainability Education Learning Centre - SA Department for Environment and Heritage

www.environment.sa.gov.au/education

Provides interactive learning experiences and resources. It also offers access to a large database of resources and services to facilitate education for sustainability.

CSIRO – On Borrowed Time

www.publish.csiro.au/onborrowedtime

A learning resource based on the book 'On Borrowed Time' by David Lindemayer. It has four inquiry-based teaching and learning units and two decision-making interactives which allow students to reflect, consider and make decisions relating to Australia's biodiversity.

Queensland Museum

www.qm.qld.gov.au/education

The website provides a number of online learning resources to teach students about biodiversity and the Australian environment. It also invites students to contribute their games and media to the QM website.

NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service – Wildlife Atlas

wildlifeatlas.nationalparks.nsw.gov.au/wildlifeatlas/watlas.jsp

This atlas contains recorded sightings of plants, mammals, birds, reptiles, amphibians and endangered invertebrates in New South Wales.

Backyard 4 Wildlife

www.backyards4wildlife.com.au

This website provides lots of information and resources about Adelaide's biodiversity and the Urban Forest

Biodiversity Program, Backyards for Wildlife and how to create your own wildlife garden, and other ways that you can get involved in conserving and restoring biodiversity. It has a range of wildlife factsheets available as well as searchable plant database.

Life in the Suburbs

www.lifeinthesuburbs.net.au

Promoting urban biodiversity in the ACT. It provides information on how you can build habitats for native wildlife in urban areas.

Global Education

www.globaleducation.edna.edu.au/globaled/page1.html

Provides information on a number of topics including the environment, biodiversity and urbanisation.

Biodiversity Conservation Research – Australia's Priorities

www.environment.gov.au/biodiversity/publications/research-priorities/section-c.html

A study on the values of biodiversity conservation.

Greening Australia – Native Vegetation and Regional Management

live.greeningaustralia.org.au/nativevegetation/pages/page2.html

Explores the environmental, social and cultural values of native vegetation.

Suggested Books

Jeannie Baker

www.jeanniebaker.com/picture_books_index.htm

- Belonging
- The Hidden Forest
- Where the Forest Meets the Sea
- Window
- The Story of Rosy Dock

Richard Louv

www.richardlouv.com

- The Last Child in the Woods

New Frontier Publishing

Children's book publisher of *Last Tree in the City*. Edward is sad after the last tree in the city is gone. He discovers a way to make things better.

