

INFORMATION FOR TEACHERS



Murray Darling Basin Commission Primary School Prize



Thank you for your participation in the WetlandCare National Art Competition 2009. The art competition is an excellent opportunity for your students to explore their local environment and themes relating to wetlands.

Please find following some advice on where to gain more information on the subject of wetlands, and some suggestions about how to approach the art competition.

Information on wetlands

WetlandCare Australia has a comprehensive website with links to educational resources and e-news bulletins for wetland information, conservation and research.

Click on **Downloads & Links** in the information bar at www.wetlandcare.com.au

Information on World Wetlands Day

Information on World Wetlands Day, and wetlands around the world, is available on the Ramsar website:

www.ramsar.org

In addition, an Information Kit for World Wetlands Day is available to download from October, and contains posters and fact sheets.

Information on the Murray-Darling Basin

Information on the Murray-Darling Basin, its rivers and wetlands can be found at the Murray-Darling Basin Commission's website:

www.mdbc.gov.au

http://www.mdbc.gov.au/about/tour_the_basin

Other useful websites:

http://www.reefed.edu.au/home/students/web_quest/exploring_wetlands

http://www.savethemurray.com/facts_wetlands_in_the_murray_darling_basin.php

Incorporating the competition into the curriculum

The art competition could be incorporated into the curriculum through several subject areas: Human Society and Its Environment, or your state's equivalent subject area, would be the most relevant subject area for this topic.

Also, the competition is relevant to the subject areas of Science and Visual Arts. Themes of conservation and sustainability can also be explored.

This is an excellent opportunity for field trips to local wetlands and class discussions about wetlands and related issues. Getting in touch with your local environmental education centre,

wetland centre or Catchment Management Authority (CMA) could be a useful method of finding out about wetlands in your region. These places can be very useful resources for this and other environmental projects.

To locate your CMA go to:

<http://www.nrm.gov.au/nrm/region.html> or

<http://www.nrm.gov.au/apps/projects/town-search.html>

Documenting Activities

WetlandCare Australia encourages teachers to document any activities undertaken in regard to the art competition, for example class field trips to local wetlands or environmental education activities.

The documentation can take the form of photographs and/or text from either the teacher or students describing the activities. This material may accompany the winning works in exhibitions. No pictures of students will be published online or in any press or publications.

Making the posters

The posters can be up to A2 in size. We request that they be made collaboratively by the students, in response to the theme of the competition and / or any activities undertaken. The posters are to be on paper. We recommend using paper of 180gsm or heavier (ask your supplier for this). Media to be used can be pen, pencil, charcoal, pastel, paint, ink, crayon etc.

Entries are to be submitted, and will be judged, as a class (incl. composite classes) or school (for small schools). We request a maximum of five posters per entry.

Privacy

The following notice appears on the entry form, and by signing it, the teacher agrees to the terms and conditions as detailed in the entry forms and the accompanying information.

PRIVACY PROTECTION NOTICE

This form allows entry into the WetlandCare National Art Competition 2009. This form will be used by WetlandCare Australia staff only. The personal information on the form will remain confidential.

Winners will be notified on or before 19th December 2008, and names of the winners will be announced at the Exhibition and Award Ceremony on World Wetlands Day (Feb 2 2009). Winners' names will be published in press releases and wherever the winning artwork is reproduced or exhibited. For the Primary School Prize, press releases and other publicity of prize winners will include school name and year level only. When artworks are reproduced students will be identified by school name and year level only. Winning artworks may be reproduced and exhibited by WetlandCare Australia and the sponsoring organisations with acknowledgement of winning artists as outlined in the Rules of the Competition

Thank you again for getting involved with the
WetlandCare National Art Competition 2009.

If you require more information, please go to our website www.wetlandcare.com.au
or contact us on 02 66816169