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Launch, Morula Kids Competition 2002

In its endeavours to bring more South Africans closer to their natural heritage, SANParks has launched this year's Morula Kids Competition. This annual competition targets primary school children from grade 1 to 7 and gives them an opportunity to win a trip for 10 to a national park. All they have to do is work on a creative project of their choice, guided by the question '***why do we need national parks?***'

The main aim of this competition is to create an awareness of environmental issues among children, a worthwhile investment in tomorrow's conservationists. Last year's competition was run as part of the organisation's Tourism Month activities, and we managed to receive more than 750 entries from a variety of schools across the country. The winning entry came from Panorama Primary School in Gauteng, 2nd was St Peter's Primary from Mpumalanga, while Moiletsoane Primary from North West got the third prize.

The competition has now grown and become one of the key projects within our Social Ecology division, and we aim to reach even more children than we did last year. To maximise our reach, entry forms and environmental education material have been placed in the August issue of ***THE TEACHER***. By using this medium we can be assured that the teachers who receive the publication monthly will have access to the educational material, which we hope will be highly beneficial for lessons incorporating environmental education. Posters and educational material and entry forms will also be distributed to schools neighbouring our parks via our social ecologists. Schools that are interested in getting the educational material can do so by visiting our website http://www.parks-sa.co.za/news/sanparks_in_the_news.html. Entry forms can also be downloaded directly from this site.

For more information on the SANParks Morula Kids Competition, contact:

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