



For Immediate Release

Showcasing Everyday Science in Creative Ways At The NewsMaker 2010 Competition

Singapore, 11 August 2010 – Following the success of the ASEAN NewsMaker Project Competition last year, the NewsMaker 2010 Competition provides a platform for students to practice their language and presentation skills through videos which could be used as learning resources for the benefit of other students.

This year's theme "At Home with Science" encouraged students to discover the relevance and usefulness of Science in everyday life. 53 teams from 20 primary and secondary schools, up from 42 teams last year, explored the importance of everyday Science by developing a 3-min documentary video each showing how a science concept learnt in school can be applied in daily life.

Mr Benson Loo, CEO of EyePower Games said, "I am very pleased to note the increased participation this year as well as the improved quality of the video entries. The students have shown sophistication beyond their years and I'd like to commend them all for their efforts. Many of the entries were very entertaining and it has been fun reviewing them."

The teams from Tampines North Primary School and Ang Mo Kio Secondary School emerged the grand winners in their respective categories. The team from Tampines North Primary School demonstrated how to charge a mobile phone without using a charger. Their video portrayed 2 student hosts of a video programme aimed at addressing science issues sent in by other students. The team from Ang Mo Kio Secondary School demonstrated how to recycle Styrofoam through a video that portrayed an experiment dissolving Styrofoam

and the results of it. Four other teams were selected winners too. (See Annex for list of winners). The videos will be made available on www.NewsMaker.TV as well as on the MDA ASEAN Media Portal at www.MDA.com/.

The winning teams walk away with attractive prizes sponsored by EyePower Games and Creative Technology including a HP Netbook and NewsMaker software for each of the grand winning teams and a Vado Pocket Video Recorder and NewsMaker software for the remaining winning teams. An Apple iPad was also awarded to the teachers of the grand winning teams.

A/Prof Lim Tit Meng, Chief Executive of Science Centre Singapore said, “We are proud to partner with EyePower Games on this meaningful project that has provided countless learning opportunities for students. The competition harvests media-rich learning resources that help engage and inspire students to discover everyday science in interesting ways and express them creatively. This is a positive step we are making towards building creative learning resources for our youths.”

The NewsMaker2010 Competition is jointly organized by Science Centre Singapore and EyePower Games Pte Ltd, with the support of the Media Development Authority (MDA) and Creative Technology.

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About EyePower Games Pte Ltd

Established in May 2004, EyePower Games Private Limited found its first success when the video processing technology that it was developing was licensed to Creative Technology, as an Advanced Video FX (aVFX) feature found in many of its web cameras sold globally. This technology was later used to create the company's first educational product, the highly innovative and fun NewsMaker software that aims at improving students' oratorical skills. EyePower Games continues to harness its innovative technology expertise to develop innovative applications that make teaching and learning more effective.

About NewsMaker™



Currently used in over 120 schools in Singapore, NewsMaker is interactive software that teachers used to help their students to improve on their oral skills through broadcast journalism. With fun interactive features that make the process learning engaging and fun, NewsMaker is suitable for students aged 9 and above. For more information, visit www.AboutNewsMaker.com.

About Science Centre Singapore

The Science Centre Singapore is a non-formal educational institution dedicated to the promotion of science and technology among students and members of the public. As a leading Science Centre in the region, the Science Centre Singapore has 14 exhibition galleries with more than 1,000 exhibits, and another 18,000 sq metres of outdoor space showcasing the Waterworks, Ecogarden and the Kinetic Garden exhibits. The Centre also houses the Omni-Theatre — Singapore's only dome-shaped, 5-storey high theatre with a capacity of 276 seats. The Science Centre, with Omni-Theatre and Snow City, received more than 1.55 million visitors for FY2009/2010. For more information, please visit www.science.edu.sg

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Annex

NewsMaker 2010 Competition Winners

Primary School Category

1) Tampines North Primary School (GRAND WINNER)

Title: How Do You Charge A Handphone Without Using the Charger?

Team members: Jerick Lim & Celine Leo

Teacher mentor: Mdm Sharifah Feiruz Alsagoff

Science Concept Applied:

A dynamo attached to a voltage regulator circuit is used as a substitute for a mobile phone charger. The dynamo is attached to a bicycle's wheel. As the wheel is turned, the dynamo turns in a clockwise direction thereby generating electricity hence charging the mobile phone.

Video Description:

Two students host a video programme aimed at addressing science issues. Their friends send in their Science questions to be answered.

2) Clementi Primary School

Title: Teh Tarik

Team members: Liam Alami Collins and Nur' Afifah Bte Hashim Hassan

Teacher mentor: Anthony Chua

Science Concept Applied:

Heat and temperature.

Video Description:

Liam treats Afifah to a cup of tea, but it is too hot. How can he solve the problem?

3) Telok Blangah Rise Primary School

Title: Alien Show

Team members: Sabeen Sara d/o Abdul Hakim and Whitney Poon

Teacher mentor: Mdm Siti Rahmah

Science Concept Applied:

The effect of heat and how when things are heated up, they undergo expansion.

Video Description:

An Alien program zooms in on an everyday problem faced by the humans. By applying a scientific solution, the humans managed to overcome the problem.

Secondary School Category

1) Ang Mo Kio Secondary School (GRAND WINNER)

Title: Recycling Styrofoam

Team members: Ong Shu Jian and Lim Hong Yee

Teacher-in-charge: Mrs Elina Hairul

Science Concept Applied:

The loosening of polar bonds between polystyrene plastic polymers molecules (e.g. Styrofoam) by soaking it in acetone.

Video Description:

An experiment showing how to "dissolve" styrofoam, why the styrofoam is "dissolved" and the uses of the product formed.

2) Maris Stella High School (Secondary)

Title: Bee Sting

Team members: Marcus Lee Kang Ting and Jeff Kok Wei Jia

Teacher mentor: Lum Wai Mei

Science Concept Applied:

Neutralisation reaction between acid and alkali.

Video Description:

A description of the treatment of a bee sting using toothpaste. The treatment is based on the concept of neutralisation reaction between acid (found inside the bee sting) and alkali (found in the toothpaste).

3) Raffles Institution

Title: CSI: Redox and Catalysis On The Case

Team member: Hu Fangda & Lee You Jun

Teacher mentor: Ong Chiau Jin

Science Concept Applied:

Redox; Catalysis; Chemiluminescence

Video Description:

A short documentary on how the concepts of redox reactions and catalysts are used by law enforcement in luminol, a chemical that detects trace amounts of blood that may be present on a suspect surface.