

Media Release:

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Katherine Junior Rangers Graduate

Junior Rangers in Katherine celebrated the end of the 2009 season with a damper making competition, certificate presentation and camp-over at Nitmiluk National Park last Friday, 6 November 2009.

Parks and Wildlife Community Education ranger Jennifer Cunningham said more than 20 children aged between 9-14 years of age participated in a wide variety of Junior Ranger activities since the 2009 season started in March.

“We’ve tried lots of different activities this year, from making things and learning first aid to exploring the river banks on bikes,” Ms Cunningham said.

“The Junior Rangers always seem to be having fun and a real sense of team spirit has built up throughout the year, these children have been great environmental ambassadors for their community.

“The graduation not only acknowledges the Junior Rangers on their attendance and contributions to the environment, but to also thank those within the Katherine community for their involvement and support who have helped the program be a great success.”

Some of this year’s highlights included:

- Learning about looking after injured wildlife and meeting some of the patients
- Making a naturalists toolkit to take on our travels out bush
- Trapping and identifying insects at the Katherine Research Station
- Potting up plants at the Greening Australia nursery, and planting our own Junior Ranger garden
- Participating in the national TiWest Nightstalks initiative by surveying animals around Nitmiluk National Park
- Presenting information about urban animals as part of the Katherine Festival

Junior Rangers in Darwin graduated in October and Junior Rangers in Alice Springs are set to graduate later this month.

The Junior Ranger Program, a free program, has been operating since 1991 and has approximately 250 members throughout the Territory.

The program aims to inspire and empower young people to take an active role in conserving and managing the Territory’s natural and cultural environment.

Ends

Media Note – for more information contact Jennifer Cunningham on 8973 8865

Image – Katherine Junior Rangers with Community Education Ranger Jennifer Cunningham

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