

Media Release:

23.06.11

Call for Alice Springs Junior Rangers

Alice Springs' young and enthusiastic environmentalists are being called to join the popular Junior Ranger Program for 2011, coordinated by the Department of Natural Resources, Environment, The Arts and Sport (NRETAS).

NRETAS Parks and Wildlife Community Education Ranger, Jacelyn Anderson said openings for children aged between 9-11 years of age are currently available for the Alice Springs Core program.

"The Junior Ranger Program aims to instil a love and appreciation of the environment through experiential learning in mostly outdoor settings," Mrs Anderson said.

"Junior Rangers have opportunities for fun hands-on encounters with animals, nature exploration, spotlight walks, bush survival and nature craft activities.

"Parks and Wildlife Rangers, NRETAS Scientists and local conservation groups also provide opportunities for the Junior Rangers to experience and learn about these roles in nature conservation."

Mrs Anderson said the Junior Ranger programs are slightly different in 2011 with Family Special Events happening throughout the year and a Core Junior Ranger program running in Alice Springs from the last week of July to the end of September (Term 3 of Government schools).

"In the Core program, Junior Rangers will need to dedicate one afternoon every week and approximately every second Sunday to attend all activities over term three," Mrs Anderson said.

"The Junior Ranger programs are a fantastic opportunity for young locals to gain a hands-on appreciation and understanding of the Territory's natural environment and I encourage anyone interested to apply."

Applications for the 2011 Junior Ranger Core program are limited and close on Monday, 11 July 2011. Family Special Events are open at any time.

For more information on the Junior Ranger program go to www.nt.gov.au/kids or phone 8951 8247.

Media Note – for more information contact Jacelyn Anderson on 8951 8247.

Image – Junior Rangers explore Simpsons Gap with Parks and Wildlife Ranger Katherine Hastie.

Issued: 10am Thursday, 23 June 2011.