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Biodiversity Snapshots Competition

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As part of the National Environment Week 2010, students of all ages were encouraged to create artwork that embodies the theme of biodiversity. The entrants' artwork is being displayed in various banks in Avarua.

There are currently three categories being judged, years 1-3 located in the foyer of the BCI, years 4-6 in the Westpac Bank and years 7-8 found in the ANZ bank. There is also a separate photographic competition with entries displayed in the ANZ.

At each of the locations there is a ballot box where the general public is encouraged to vote for their favorite entries. This ballot is still open as this goes to print so go and make your voices heard.

As we arrived at the BCI bank, early Tuesday afternoon, three people were deep in discussion judging the years 1-3 competition entries. The judges for the years 1-3 category are artist Judith Kunzle, June Hosking, a teacher/environmentalist, and general manager of BCI, Vaine Arioka. The judges were armed with specific criteria to aid them in their decision making, but all entertained their own ideas on what the entrants'

Rarotongan children have been taught about biodiversity in schools and were encouraged to convey their knowledge of the theme through this artwork. The works that best capture the theme will be pronounced as the winners on Friday.