



## ONTARIO NATURE'S WRITING AND ART CONTEST

**This year's topic is:** Wild species and wild spaces: why biodiversity is important to me.

The year 2010 has been declared the year of biodiversity. Biodiversity is the variety of plants and animals in the world, or in a particular area. If the earth's living systems are to remain strong, those systems must have a high level of biodiversity. Our well-being depends on it.

**New this year!**  
Our contest now includes artwork submissions. Prizes will be given to the top three essays AND the top three paintings or drawings.

**What to write:** Send us an essay or story that is a maximum of 700 words in length. Your submission should be typed and double-spaced. Please be sure that your submission reflects the topic.

**What to draw or paint:** Send us your artwork on an 8.5" x 11" sheet. Drawings or paintings should reflect the topic.

**Include:** An official entry form with your name, address, telephone number, email address, your parents' or guardian's name and signature, your grade and the name of your school. **To download your entry form, visit [www.ontarionature.org](http://www.ontarionature.org).**

Entry is limited to grade 7 and 8 students.

You can send us a written submission or a piece of artwork or both. A panel of judges will review all submissions. The three winning entries for each category (writing and art) will be published in our award-winning magazine, *ON Nature*.

The grand prize for each category is a \$500 Canada Savings Bond and \$250 for the winner's class to go toward a nature-based activity. The prize for 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> place in each category is a mountain bike. All winners will receive a prize pack containing a gift certificate courtesy of Mountain Equipment Co-op, a one-year family membership to Ontario Nature and other cool stuff. The winners will also be honoured for their achievement at Ontario Nature's Annual General Meeting on May 29<sup>th</sup>, 2010, at Lambton College in Sarnia.

To see last year's winning entries and for more information on the contest, visit Ontario Nature's website at [www.ontarionature.org](http://www.ontarionature.org).

**Deadline: February 26<sup>th</sup>, 2010**

**SEND YOUR ENTRIES TO:**  
Youth Writing and Art Contest  
Ontario Nature  
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Toronto, ON M5V 1R9  
Email: [lenoren@ontarionature.org](mailto:lenoren@ontarionature.org)

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