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# Embracing nature via recycling contest

**WHILE** world leaders who recently gathered in Copenhagen for the United Nations climate talk failed to agree on measures to fight global warming, much closer to home, over 44,000 students from 25 schools in Klang Valley came together and helped Mother Nature by participating in Tetra Pak beverage carton recycling contest.

The contest ended with SK Sri Kelana taking home the grand prize of RM5,000 and trophy for collecting 194,000 beverage cartons within the six-month contest period.

SK Sri Ampang Campuran and SK Taman Maluri bagged the second prize of RM3,000 and third prize of RM2,000 plus trophy respectively.

Class 5 Andalas from SK Taman Sri Andalas was awarded a special category prize for the highest collection of beverage cartons and were rewarded with a trophy, certificate of participation, and a trip to Forest Research Institute Malaysia (FRIM) sponsored by Tetra Pak.

Mohammad Afiq Mohd Zailani, 10, from 5 Andalas said not only had he enjoyed his first trip to FRIM, he also gained a lot of knowledge about nature conservation and how he as a student can make a difference.

The contest was part of Tetra Pak's "Nurture for Nature" campaign, with support of Education Ministry and FRIM; aimed to instil passion and a nurturing habit towards the environment among primary school children.

"With the assistance of the Education Ministry and FRIM's knowledge in forestry, we not only organised the beverage carton recycling contest, but we also conducted roadshows at all participating schools," said Tetra Pak communications and environment director Terryzn Tan.

"The roadshow consists of a talk that explains to students the importance of

preserving our trees and forests, and also an exhibition on products that can be derived from recyclable materials,"

said Tan.

She said that the environment has been an integral part of Tetra Pak's business operation for the past 50 years and the programme is an extension of its

commitment towards the environment – in line with their motto to "protect what's good".

Tetra Pak also donated RM10,000 towards one of FRIM's initiatives to educate and instil environmental consciousness among the public.

FRIM corporate management head Norhayati Nordin, who received the donation on behalf of FRIM, said: "We have been considering setting up an Environmental Educational Centre (EEC) in FRIM to enable us to conduct talks, workshops, and group activities for our visitors. Thanks to the contributions from Tetra Pak, we can now kickstart the programme."

The Nurture for Nature campaign will be back for its second instalment next year due to tremendous support and positive feedback received from students and teachers alike.



Teachers from SK Sri Kelana hold the grand prize after winning the Tetra Pak beverage carton recycling contest. On the right is Tan.