

## **INTERNET** ARTICLE

## **Puppet Show Promotes Water Conservation in Schools**

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The water conservation puppet show awareness of the Department of Water and Sanitation hit schools in the Gert Sibande and Nkangala Districts of the Mpumalanga Province from 21 to 23 September 2016 with the main intention of creating more water ambassadors in the communities. The awareness roadshow hit schools in Chief Albert Luthuli, Msukaligwa and Lekwa Local Municipalities in the Gert Sibande District, and Victor Khanye Local Municipality in the Nkangala District. The schools visited include Pieter Mabuza, Phumula, Ntabanhle, Thandeka, Lindilanga, Khangela and Sizuzile primary schools.

The aim of the puppet show awareness campaign is basically to educate learners about the importance of water conservation; especially as ours is a water scarce country and one of the 30 driest countries in the world. The awareness campaign also highlighted the importance of water use efficiency and responsible citizen behaviour in the war on leaks.

The puppet show creates awareness amongst the learners in a form of dramatizing the importance of water conservation and the negative effects of water wastage in our communities. It is crucial to create awareness and educate young kids to ensure that they grow up as responsible citizens as the future is in their hands. Water conservation is crucial for the sustainability and survival of the current and future generations.

The puppet show awareness campaign also aims to create water superheroes in our communities and by the active participation and enthusiasm of the learners, the message of water conservation and water use efficiency will go a long way. Our superheroes in the visited schools committed themselves to sharing the message with their families and friends.

The department also shared the toll free number and call centre details with the learners and adults in the audience and encouraged them to share the contact details and use them to report water related incidents in their communities.