Gauteng Community Libraries
Information Literacy

8 June 2011
**LIBRARY MOTTO**

“The more that you read, The more things you will know. The more that you learn, The more places you’ll go”

-Dr Seuss
Gauteng Library Priorities – Macro environment

- Developmental – social cohesion
- Increase access to services
- Poorest of the poor is the priority
- Contribution to job creation and reducing unemployment
- Creating decent jobs
- Better education
Gauteng Libraries
Micro environment

- 233 libraries for 43,000 people
- 75% situated in metropolitan areas
- More than 1,300 staff members
- More than 8 million books
- 100% public access to computers
- 50% provide internet access to public
- R449 million spent on libraries annually
- 2,155,356 reference queries answered
- 2,798,373 students/learners
Information Literacy challenges

- Users not knowledgeable about use of a library and books.
- Users not knowledgeable about use of catalogue
- OPAC in libraries poorly developed
- Many users not computer literate
- Some libraries not computerized yet.
- Unrealistic expectations from users
Challenges continue

- Language challenges
- Insufficient staff to render services
- Funding challenges
- Internet considered to be alpha and omega
- Conflicting priorities
- Reluctance of library staff to embrace electronic databases and services in collections
Ways to address information literacy

- Partnerships
- Training provided by universities in central library locations
- Simplified manuals for use by users and staff
- Joint project by Departments SACR and Education
Collaboration

- With universities on training, simple manuals, interactive software programmes
- Talks in libraries
- Provision of resources for community libraries
- Training of librarians in use of electronic information and electronic subscriptions.

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Virtual library services
ARE YOU
THE STRONGEST LINK

Are you the strongest library link?
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Many other prizes to be won!

For details phone Orna Kemp at (011) 740 2040 or enquire at the nearest library.