



Contact: Kim Hammann, Thames & Kosmos
301 Friendship Street, Providence, RI 02903
401-459-6787; kim@thamesandkosmos.com



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***TK2 SCOPE* EARNs THE NATIONAL PARENTING CENTER SEAL OF APPROVAL**

(Providence, RI – April 29, 2011) Microscopes are not often referred to as “cool”, but Thames & Kosmos’ **TK2 Scope**, a microscope and biology kit, is helping to change that perception. In a recent review conducted by The National Parenting Center, the TK2 Scope was awarded the Spring 2011 Seal of Approval for its high ranking in desirability, sturdiness, interactive stimulation, and other ingredients essential in the make-up of a quality product.

The National Parenting Center is among the world’s most respected authorities in the fields of child rearing and development. Each year, the Seal of Approval program identifies the finest products and services for parent and child audiences. During an eight-week, multi-step testing process an independent panel of parents, children and educators has the opportunity to test and evaluate a variety of product up-close.

“Our mission has always been to put science back into the hands of its students,” says Thames & Kosmos President Ted McGuire. “It is an honor to be recognized by a reputable organization like The National Parenting Center, but knowing that the Seal of Approval is based on the feedback from real families and kids who got to play with and experiment with the kit makes this honor especially significant to us.”

With the TK2 Scope, young scientists ages 8 and up embark on a journey through the microscopic world, discovering its hidden creatures and unseen structures. The 48-page, full color manual guides them through dozens of fascinating investigations of biological specimens – from leaves and fur, to hair and blood – and provides all the tools, knowledge, and skills needed to view virtually any specimen they can find.



The microscope itself is durable and powerful, allowing for years of continued observations. The dual light 40-, 100-, and 400-power instrument features two battery-powered LED light sources that allow for viewing of large or opaque objects lit from above, as well as thinly sliced or translucent specimens lit from below. It also includes over 20 tools and accessories, such as blank and pre-prepared slides, blue and red stains, and ocular and objective lenses made of professional-quality optical glass.

TK2 Scope retails for \$119.95 and is available at specialty toy, hobby, gift, museum and online stores. For a complete list of retailers, visit the Where to Buy page at www.thamesandkosmos.com.

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About The National Parenting Center

The National Parenting Center was founded in July of 1989 with the intention of providing the most comprehensive and responsible parenting advice to parents everywhere. For more information, please visit: <http://www.tnpc.com/about.htm>.

About Thames & Kosmos

Thames & Kosmos, a privately held company headquartered in Providence, RI, was founded in 2001 with the mission of improving informal science education by creating high-quality science and technology-related educational products for children. Thames & Kosmos places an emphasis on teaching science that is relevant to the important issues in the world today through hands-on experimentation. Topics covered in Thames & Kosmos' line of over 60 kits include alternative energy, chemistry, biology, physics, electronics, natural history, and earth science. For more information on any of the award-winning kits, please contact Kim Hammann at kim@thamesandkosmos.com or visit www.thamesandkosmos.com.