Estonian students have achieved good results in international comparative assessments of TIMMS 2003, PISA 2006 and 2009 (Lepmann 2006; 2011). However, those assessments have enabled to identify certain problems that require closer attention: our students do not like to learn mathematics and they do not regard it as a valuable subject in terms of their future plans. At the same time, Estonia, as other countries of the EU, needs to increase the number of graduates in mathematics. According to several studies (Pihlap, 2006; 2010; Luik 2004), learning mathematics can be made more interesting, rewarding and fun by the use of computers. Several software applications, including Wiris computer algebra software and GeoGebra dynamic geometry software, are available for mathematics instruction in Estonia. The programs have been translated into Estonian and teachers have an opportunity to learn to use the software in free training. However, according to Prei (2010), 60% of mathematics teachers have never used these programs. A student competition "Notice Mathematics around You" has been organised in Estonia for five years to promote the use of the aforementioned software applications and to emphasise connections between mathematics and daily life. In two years, the contestants have prepared text problems, whereas the initial data had to be found from everyday life in the first competition and from various school subjects in the second. The participants then had to use the prepared problem to compile an equation or equation system, and to solve it in Wiris. In two competitions, the contestants were asked to identify and photograph mathematical objects (lines in one year and three-dimensional shapes in the other) in the surrounding environment, and to mark them on the photographs using GeoGebra. The assignment in the fifth competition was to create patterns from animated lines using GeoGebra software. In all competitions involving GeoGebra, the contestants had to submit mathematical explanations of drawings in addition to a GeoGebra worksheet. In the opinion of teachers, such competitions have been motivating for students. Even students who had never participated in traditional mathematics contests were able to have experiences of success. The students believed that the competitions have provided them with new knowledge and skills along with the joy of discovery. Several contestants stated that were not able to see mathematics everywhere around us before the competition.

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