

CWSF 2008 - Ottawa, Ontario



Monica Whitney-Brown

Raindrops on Rotors

Division: Engineering & Computing Sciences / Environmental Innovation

Category: Junior

Region: Vancouver Island

City: Cowichan Bay, BC

School: George Bonner Middle School

Abstract: My project experiments with using rainwater as an alternative renewable electricity resource. Climate change models for Vancouver Island all predict more rain and fiercer storms, which will mean more power outages, and more need for locally-produced power. I invented four prototypes to generate electricity using water flow from a rain barrel, and succeeded in producing tiny but measurable quantities of electricity.

Biography

Monica Whitney-Brown lives in a fishing village on Vancouver Island with her mom, dad, brother and sister. Spending thirteen months traveling around North America, from L'Anse aux Meadows (Newfoundland) to New Orleans to Inuvik brought them really close. They recovered, however, and became more or less normal once they settled in B.C. She is in grade eight at George Bonner Middle School. Monica plays volleyball and basketball, and enjoys singing, traveling, reading, playing trumpet loudly on her deck, and having fun with friends. Other loves include the ocean, the creatures near her home (like herons, eagles and enormous starfish), laughing so hard her stomach hurts, writing, music, fair trade clothing, sunsets, awesome rain boots, and whipped cream. Future aspirations include becoming a marine biologist, traveling all over the world and learning to walk a tightrope.