

## CWSF 2011 - Toronto, Ontario



### Catharine Bowman

#### There's Bugs in my Bag!

**Challenge:** Health

**Category:** Junior

**Region:** Bay Area

**City:** Dundas, ON

**School:** St. Augustine E.S.

**Abstract:** This experiment studies whether or not there are significant amounts of bacteria/fungus growing in 5 common types of reusable grocery bags, and the effectiveness of a novel intervention to clean them. Visual and microscopic observation identified the growth of aspergillus, penicillium and fusarium colonies. Spraying with a Thyme oil antiseptic was effective to reduce colony size and number. All results proved to be statistically relevant.

#### Biography

I am a grade seven student at St. Augustine school in Dundas. I enjoy all sports and have played rep. basketball for six years, winning many team and individual awards. I have been on many school sports teams and also play competitive chess, winning many tournaments. I play guitar, piano, and drums and compose my own music. I am involved in the music ministry in my church and assist with music at school. Other church activities include altar serving, youth ministries and food drives. I really enjoy camping in wilderness locations and have camped in every province. I also canoe and kayak. I hope to attend university to study archeology or science. This is my first Canada Wide science fair and I have loved the experience of getting to this point. All three of my brothers have competed in science fairs and they have gone to Canada Wide and ISEF. We are a science fair family! I love science and look forward to competing in future fairs.

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