

CWSF 2011 - Toronto, Ontario



Hanah Marie DeGruchy

Smart Slime

Challenge: Environment

Category: Senior

Region: Strait

City: Antigonish, NS

School: Dr. John Hugh Gillis Regional School

Abstract: Two mazes were designed for an experiment involving the slime mould *Physarum polycephalum* to discover if it has intelligence. One maze contained two paths, different in length. The second maze contained two identical paths. The *Physarum polycephalum* did find the shorter path through the first maze. For the second maze, the mould divided and followed each path simultaneously, like I hypothesized, showing signs of intelligence.

Biography

My name is Hanah DeGruchy. I have been riding horses for the past five years at a local barn. In the past two years I have travelled with our high school band to Montreal and Boston. I play several musical instruments including piano, tenor saxophone, and bass. Next year I am planning on going to NSAC for pre-veterinary medicine and later on to AVC where I hope to become a large animal vet.