

CWSF 2012 - Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island



Caroline Kohlen

Mate Selection: *Drosophila Melanogaster*

Challenge: Discovery

Category: Junior

Region: Central Interior British Columbia

City: Prince George, BC

School: Westside Academy

Abstract: In this project I was testing to see the preference that a fruit fly, of *Drosophila melanogaster*, would have for a mate. I used *Drosophila melanogaster* for various practical reasons. I was also studying fruit fly genetics, physical characteristics, and their mating behavior.

Biography

I am Caroline Kohlen and I am in grade 8 and attend Westside Academy in Prince George, B.C. I am on the school soccer team and play the alto saxophone in our school band who has won gold for three years in a row. I have been doing science fair since grade 5 and have won 1 silver medal, 3 gold medals, the B.C. Genome Award twice, the B.C. Teachers award, 2 Best in Category Awards. This is my first time going to the National Science Fair. I also won the Principal's List in grade 7. I love to travel. I have been across Canada and the States. When I graduate I would either like to be a doctor or a teacher because I love being with young children. I developed this project because fruit flies are commonly used in biology experiments and I am also very interested in genetics. If I were to investigate this project further I would run more tests and also experiment with more mutant fruit flies. My advice to future students interested in doing a project would be that they understand and follow the scientific method.