

CWSF 2012 - Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island



Madeleine Yeomans

What Moves Us

Challenge: Discovery

Category: Junior

Region: North Bay

City: North Bay, ON

School:

Abstract: The purpose of my project was to determine whether incentive improved performance in cognitive and mechanical skill tasks. Using extrinsic motivators and no motivation on participants, I concluded that the incentive improved performance for the mechanical skill task and not the cognitive skill task, meaning that we might need to reshape our businesses and schools to encourage intrinsic motivation rather than extinguish it.

Biography

The inspiration for my project came from watching a video on the Ted Talks website of author Daniel Pink talking about how we need to remodel our businesses to run on intrinsic motivation rather than extrinsic motivation. I have not decided yet on whether to pursue the topic or to expand my knowledge in another area of science. As for myself, I have done science fair projects in the past but this is my first North Bay science fair project as I am new to the region. I participate in every school sport possible and play on competitive ringette and soccer teams. Also I am a avid reader and math and science are my favorite subjects. My advice for someone interested in doing science fair would be if you don't love it, then there's no point in doing it. Don't do it for the money or scholarships (extrinsic motivation), do it because you love it (intrinsic motivation.)

Awards

Value

Excellence Award - Junior - Bronze Medal Sponsor: Nuclear Waste Management Organization	\$300
Western University Scholarship Bronze Medallist - \$1000 Entrance Scholarship Sponsor: Western University	\$1 000
Total	\$1 300