

CWSF 2014 - Windsor, Ontario



Graydon Taylor

Ski Wax: Can We Do Better?

Challenge: Discovery

Category: Junior

Region: Simcoe County

City: Nottawa, ON

School: Pretty River Academy

Abstract: The purpose of this experiment was to investigate whether common household substances, applied to the base of a ski, would reduce friction more than commercially available ski wax. A "ski dummy" was constructed, four different substances were applied to the skis' base and downhill skiing was imitated. Each run down the hill was timed to establish which substances resulted in the fastest time.

Biography

My name is Graydon Taylor and I am in Grade Seven at Pretty River Academy in Collingwood. I love to ski and ski race which is why I was interested in exploring how different substances acted when applied to the bottom of skis. I also love to read, mountain bike, play rugby, fish and do math. I lived in Switzerland for two years with my family and went to a small International School in the mountains. Next winter, I plan to experiment with different brands of ski waxes to find out what makes my skis go faster. My advice for other students is to choose a subject that you are very interested in, it makes it a lot easier and more fun.