

CWSF 2014 - Windsor, Ontario



Herman Müller

Does the Ocean Have a Beat?

Challenge: Discovery

Category: Junior

Region: Prairie Valley

City: White City, SK

School: White City

Abstract: There is a popular belief in many coastal cultures that ocean waves come in groups, with the largest usually the seventh wave. Wave shore measurements were performed at Buffelsbaai, South Africa, for four consecutive days during high tide. Data analysis showed that the largest waves had varying intervals, however this study conclusively showed that they came in groups of less than seven.

Biography

I was born in Canada, both my parents are from South Africa. We still go visit our family in South Africa regularly. Other than having an interest in science, I have many other hobbies. One of my favourite activities is photography. I had photos published in two magazines, and one museum. I also placed as runner-up in the 2012 Wildlife Photography of The Year Competition. Other than photography, I love playing soccer. It has always been my favourite sport and I hold it very dear to me. My project was started after watching a movie called Chasing Mavericks. The movie mentioned about how every seventh wave is bigger than the rest. Immediately I wondered if this really occurs, and if so, why? My curiosity led to a study that has made a huge impact on me. If I ever travel to different beaches across the world, I will observe if the outcome holds true. For any future students thinking of doing a project, my best advice to you would be to live to your fullest potential. You might be surprised how far you can go.

Awards

Value

Excellence Award - Junior - Silver Medal Sponsor: Youth Science Canada	\$300
Western University Scholarship Silver Medallist - \$2000 Entrance Scholarship Sponsor: Western University	\$2 000
Total	\$2 300