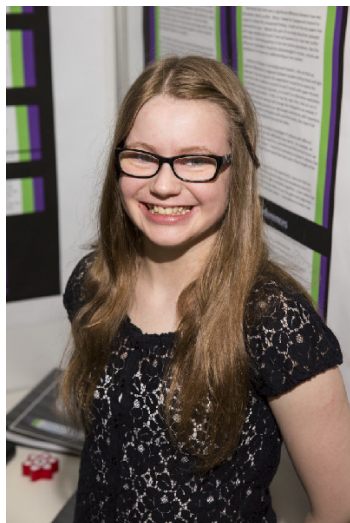


## CWSF 2015 - Fredericton, New Brunswick



### Rachel Cuell

#### Mind over Matter. . . Or Matter over Mind?

**Challenge:** Discovery

**Category:** Junior

**Region:** Pacific Northwest

**City:** Smithers, BC

**School:** Smithers Secondary

**Abstract:** This year, I did two experiments on whether your surroundings influence your thoughts. In experiment one, I found that hard phone cases increase your perception of conflict in an ambiguous scenario. In experiment two, I found that reading a high quality resume on a heavier clipboard with an iPad does not increase how qualified you think an applicant is for a position.

#### Biography

My name is Rachel and I live in Smithers, BC. My interests, besides science, are reading, volleyball, cross country skiing and playing the violin, piano, and alto saxophone. This year, I did two experiments on whether your surroundings influence your thoughts. In experiment one, I found that hard phone cases increase your perception of conflict in an ambiguous scenario. In experiment two, I looked to see if having a heavier case affects your judgments of people. I had participants read a resume on an iPad with either a heavy clipboard underneath it, or a light one. I found that it doesn't make a difference, but that could be because the resume was too good so it was an outstanding resume no matter what clipboard it was on. If you are planning on doing a Science Fair project, you should. They're really fun and you learn so much by doing them, like statistics, how to make an amazing write up and how to analyze everything really well!

