

CWSF 2015 - Fredericton, New Brunswick



Jenny Wu

The Attraction of Distractions

Challenge: Discovery

Category: Senior

Region: Calgary Youth

City: Calgary, AB

School: Webber Academy

Abstract: The Attraction of Distractions, set in a high school setting, explores the effects distractions have on productivity. This experiment compares the amount of time students take to type while under different distractions, such as cafeteria noise, background music, and conversation. The deviation between control and distractions revealed some unpredictable results which may explain the productivity levels while working in different environments.

Biography

Wei, prefers to be called Jenny, attends Webber academy and is currently in grade 11. She speaks English, Mandarin, and is currently learning Spanish. Looking to pursue a career in science, Wei participates in many scientific activities, one of which is the science fair. Although her primary interest is focused around Geology and Paleontology, she had a sudden curiosity towards the field of neuroscience and decided to center her project this year on neuroscience and psychology. Wei noticed that an increasing amount of people now work surrounded by distraction and have heard complaints about dropping productivity and quality in the completed work, and so she decided to test multitasking. As for future investigation, she may further her studies on the multitasking subject but will more likely follow the path of her interest. Wei found that the science fair is a way of expressing scientific creativity which otherwise may be suppressed, and also gives a platform where it allows students to explore their interests. A topic that the student picks should then be of their interest or passion would give that student an advantage. Also, if possible, finding a mentor would really help with regulating and overseeing the project.

Awards

Value

Excellence Award - Senior - Bronze Medal Sponsor: Youth Science Canada	
University of Ottawa Entrance Scholarship Senior Bronze Medallist - \$1000 Entrance Scholarship Sponsor: University of Ottawa	\$1 000
Western University Scholarship Bronze Medallist - \$1000 Entrance Scholarship Sponsor: Western University	\$1 000
Total	\$2 000

