

# CWSF 2016 - Montreal, Quebec



## Neleah Lavoie, Megan Downe

### Reward vs. Punishment: Which is the Better Motivator?

**Challenge:** Discovery

**Category:** Junior

**Region:** 4-H Canada

**City:** Hunter River RR3, PE, Hunter River, PE

**School:** Gulf Shore Consolidated School

**Abstract:** What better motivates children - the carrot or the stick? Our project was designed to determine whether reward or punishment was the better motivator for young children. We ran an experiment using 40 participants in public elementary school in order to gather results. Half of the participants were tested using punishment first, and the other half were first tested using reward.

#### Biographies

Neleah - My name is Neleah Lavoie and I'm twelve years old. This is my first time at the CWSF, however I have competed provincially in science fairs since grade 4. My hobbies include competitive gymnastics and soccer. At school I enjoy Phys. ed, Math and Science. On top of that, I have participated in school sports, band and 4-H. I have competed in many 4-H public speaking competitions at the provincial level and in May of 2016 I will be representing PEI at the Global Destination Imagination competition in Tennessee. As for my future career, I am interested in child psychology. The inspiration for my project came from seeing many of the younger stud...

Megan - My name is Megan Downe and I'm twelve years old. My hobbies include reading, writing, basketball, and caring for over a dozen pets. I enjoy math, science, and English language arts in school. I am also an involved member of my 4-H club and have won the Junior Provincial Demonstration Competition of 2015. As a career, I am interested in medicine or the healthcare industry. I was inspired to start my science project when I saw that many of the younger students in my school seemed unmotivated to hand in overdue assignments and to complete schoolwork. It made me wonder what the best way to motivate them would be; reward or punishment, as their ow...

#### Awards

#### Value

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