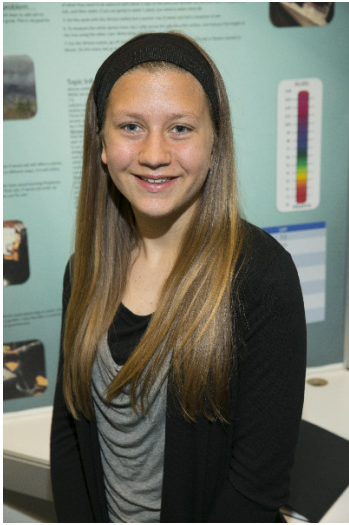


## CWSF 2017 - Regina, Saskatchewan



### Marley Shewchuk-Iwankow

#### Does Wood Ash Affect a Plants Growth?

**Challenge:** Environment

**Category:** Junior

**Region:** Frontier Schools

**City:** West Hawk Lake, MB

**School:** Falcon Beach School

**Abstract:** My project investigates the affect that wood ash had on the growth of two types of plants: African Violets and white spruce trees. Two tests were done: one by adding wood ash to the top of the soil and watered with regular water and the other was by boiling wood ash in water and then using that mixture to water the plants.

#### Biography

I am a grade 7 student who enjoys skiing, soccer and fiddling. I enjoy volunteering in my community, spending time with my family and friends at the lake and travelling. The inspiration for this project came from my home. We have a wood burning fireplace and I wondered if the ashes could be used for anything useful. After experiencing a forest fire close to our home last year, and knowing how a forest will rejuvenate quickly after a fire, I thought, why not use the ashes on plants? To extend this project, I would like to see if there is a difference between using hardwood and softwood ash, and to further research the composition of soil with the addition of ash. As for advice to other students, conduct a lot of research and be well-prepared!

Youth Science Canada  
PO Box 297  
Pickering ON L1V 2R4  
[www.youthscience.ca](http://www.youthscience.ca) / [info@youthscience.ca](mailto:info@youthscience.ca)  
416-341-0040