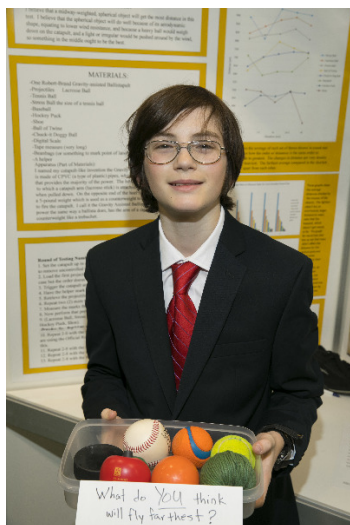


CWSF 2017 - Regina, Saskatchewan



Robert Allen

The Projectile Problem

Challenge: Discovery

Category: Junior

Region: Edmonton

City: St. Albert, AB

School: Sir George Simpson Junior High

Abstract: Using a homemade launcher of my own design (the gravity-assisted Ballistapult), I threw objects of different masses and shapes 3 times each at different launch angles, then recorded and analyzed the results. I then improved the Ballistapult and test process to conduct a second round of testing to find more comprehensive results.

Biography

There was a science fair at my school and the other kids didn't seem to be happy about it. However, I saw no reason why I couldn't enjoy doing my experiment as long as I chose a subject that would interest me. I always have been intrigued by engineering so I decided to build a catapult. This catapult was unique, though, and of my own design. After scouring the internet I could not find an instance of this same design being used. Besides, what can be more fun than throwing things with a catapult!? Surprisingly people found my project to be good enough to make it to nationals, which is quite exciting! If I was going to go through with some more rounds of testing I would try and use a wider variety of objects to get more comprehensive results. Although I wouldn't call myself an expert on science fairs a good rule of thumb to bear in mind would be to find a subject that interests you before doing the experiment as if you are passionate about what you are working out it will most likely turn out better.