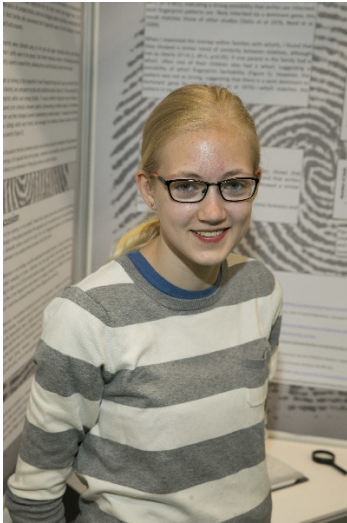


CWSF 2017 - Regina, Saskatchewan



Jennifer Boone

Are Fingerprint Shapes Inherited?

Challenge: Discovery

Category: Junior

Region: Pacific Northwest

City: Smithers, BC

School: Bulkley Valley Christian School

Abstract: My project aims to determine if fingerprint patterns are inherited or random. I collected thumb and index fingerprints from 48 people in ten families. I compared patterns between moms and dads (unrelated) and between children and their parents (related). I found that arch patterns are likely inherited. Knowing more about print heritability could help in crime forensics and identification purposes.

Biography

I live in Smithers, BC and go to Bulkley Valley Christian School. I enjoy reading, writing, sports, and learning about animals. I have always been interested in fingerprints and think it's cool that though there are three main groups of fingerprints, everyone's fingerprints are unique. This science fair project has allowed me to examine the fingerprints of my family and friends. In the future, I would be curious to research rare fingerprints and see how often these are inherited. My advice to other students about doing a project would be to follow your interests and ask lots of questions.