

CWSF 2017 - Regina, Saskatchewan



Catriona McIntosh

How Attachment Affects Informed Risk Taking in Adolescents

Challenge: Health

Category: Junior

Region: Calgary Youth

City: Cremona, AB

School:

Abstract: The leading cause of death among adolescents today is accidents. Brain activity, specifically in the nucleus accumbens and prefrontal cortex, contributes to adolescent risk taking exceeding that of any other age group, increasing with peer presence, and not decreasing with education about the risks. My project concluded that a secure parental attachment could reduce the impact of peer presence on adolescent risk taking.

Biography

My name is Catriona McIntosh and I'm a twelve year old grade seven student at Argyll Homeschooling Center, this means I do school online at home. I also live on a farm with horses, cats, chickens and a dog. I grew up riding horses and have been in pony club since I was five, but my favorite sport is equestrian vaulting. This is basically a combination of dance and gymnastics on a horse. Along with this I have been doing science fair since grade one. I picked this years project 'How Attachment Affects Informed Risk Taking in Adolescents', because I have always been interested in how the brain works and have been doing projects based on this since grade five. My advice to other science fair participants is to pick a topic that you personally find fascinating and will enjoy learning about.

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