

# CWSF 2018 - Ottawa, Ontario



## Nikki van Schaik

### Restoring the Reefs

**Challenge:** Environment

**Category:** Junior

**Region:** Simcoe County

**City:** Thornton, ON

**School:** Cookstown P.S.

**Abstract:** This project focuses on the causes and effects of coral bleaching, as well as a possible solution for the problem. Coral bleaching is one of the many global environmental issues caused by climate change, and it leads to immense stress for corals throughout the world. In this project, an experiment was conducted testing the effects of adding limestone to acidic water to neutralize it.

#### Biography

My name is Nikki van Schaik, and I am a grade 8 student attending Cookstown Central Public School. I love to be outdoors camping, canoeing, and swimming. I enjoy trampolining, playing volleyball, skiing, and doing track and field. I first discovered my passion for environmental sciences after taking part in the regional science fair in grade 5. Ever since, I have been participating in the science fair, returning with different innovative environmental projects. This year, wanting to explore yet another environmental issue, I chose to do a project about restoring the coral reefs. This was an interesting topic for me because I enjoy snorkeling and have always wanted to know more about coral. I would love to extend my project by creating a device to test my pH neutralizing strategy in a real coral reef. My piece of advice to other young scientists would be that the secret of success is to never give up.

#### 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