

# CWSF 2018 - Ottawa, Ontario



## Aidan James

### Migratory Confusion in Leatherback Sea Turtles

**Challenge:** Environment

**Category:** Intermediate

**Region:** Halifax

**City:** Halifax, NS

**School:** Fountain Academy of the Sacred Heart

**Abstract:** Conserving the endangered leatherback sea turtle (*Dermochelys coriacea*) requires understanding the way its behaviour may put it at risk for entanglement in fishing gear, one of the primary threats to its survival. To this end, I investigated the behaviour of leatherbacks found in three bays late in the foraging season. I wanted to understand if their behaviour differed between bays with northern and southern mouths.

#### Biography

Hi! My name is Aidan James and I'm from Halifax, Nova Scotia. I currently attend Fountain Academy. My primary interests are playing guitar and skateboarding. I saw a dead leatherback sea turtle two summers ago, and it inspired me to reach out to a local organization (the Canadian Sea Turtle Network) about ways I could have a real world impact on their research to conserve this amazing endangered species. The result is my project called "Migratory Confusion in Leatherback Sea Turtles." This project has already had some cool "real world" impacts, so I am excited to bring it to CWSF in Ottawa this May!

#### Awards

#### Value

Excellence Award - Intermediate - Bronze Medal Sponsor: Youth Science Canada	
Western University Scholarship Bronze Medallist - \$1000 Entrance Scholarship Sponsor: Western University	\$1 000
Total	\$1 000