

CWSF 2018 - Ottawa, Ontario



Rebecca Rathlef

Are Natural Products Effective Sunscreens?

Challenge: Health

Category: Junior

Region: Greater Vancouver

City: Vancouver, BC

School: Prince of Wales Secondary

Abstract: My project was an experiment testing the efficiency of natural oils and butters as sunscreens. Online there are hundreds of websites saying natural products have sufficient SPF, often believed by many. I decided to test these claims, and found that these natural products provided little to no protection. This is important, as people I've found who've believed this were previously putting themselves at risk unknowingly.

Biography

My name is Rebecca and I attend Grade 8 at Prince of Wales Mini School, in Vancouver, BC. I am a Pathfinder with Girl Guides of Canada, and take part in musical theatre classes outside of school. I've completed my Lady Baden Powell Challenge, and am currently doing my Canada Cord alongside my fellow Pathfinders. My project was an experiment testing natural oils and butters as sunscreens. It was inspired by the relevance of social media in this age, and how it can be used to spread misinformation. In the future, I would like to compare different brands and forms of sunscreens, to find what should be used for maximum UV protection. If I could give advice to students considering participating in a Science Fair, it would be to definitely do it. It gives you the ability to be the expert, and to experiment by being the teacher on judging day. Science Fair is a world of possibility, one which can lead to amazing opportunities. I am incredibly excited to participate in this event, and am so grateful for the opportunity to learn from my peers and and form new friendships.

Awards

Value

Excellence Award - Junior - Gold Medal Sponsor: Youth Science Canada	
Western University Scholarship Gold Medallist - \$4000 Entrance Scholarship Sponsor: Western University	\$4 000
Total	\$4 000