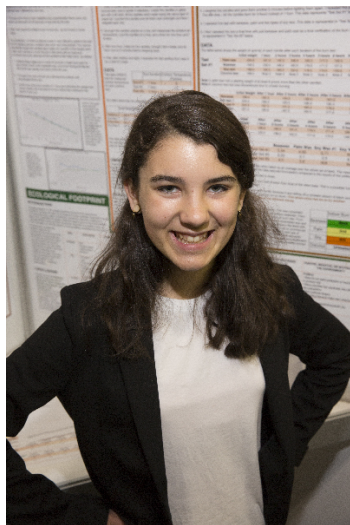


# CWSF 2019 - Fredericton, New Brunswick



## Anna Chandler Merlo

### Which is the Best Alternative to Paraffin Wax: Beeswax, Soy, Palm or Coconut Wax

**Challenge:** Resources

**Category:** Junior

**Region:** Ottawa

**City:** Ottawa, ON

**School:** Polaris School and Centre

**Abstract:** This project is a study of the burn time, luminosity, soot and ecological footprint of several candle wax alternatives to Paraffin such as Soy Wax, Beeswax, Palm Wax and Coconut Wax.

#### Biography

I live in Ottawa, am homeschooled and attend a program at the Polaris School and Centre. I have a longstanding interest in making beeswax candles and am also really interested in climate change and environmental topics, so I was interested in finding the best wax alternative to petroleum-derived paraffin wax. I study piano and voice and sing in the Cantiamo Choirs of Ottawa. I am very interested in botany and herbal medicine, and completed a five-year Apprenticeship with a local herbalist. I am a two-time winner at the Ottawa Regional Heritage Fair. I have learned the importance of starting research early, keeping complete and regular notes and adapting to changes in the project plan based on experimental results. As far as advice is concerned: when you are choosing a project topic, finding something that relates to your interests can help you come up with ideas about what you will study, experiment with or innovate. In terms of future research, I would like to test alternatives for paraffin's other uses and see if beeswax can be a viable alternative for those uses as well.

#### Awards

#### Value

Excellence Award - Junior - Silver Medal Sponsor: Youth Science Canada	
Western University Scholarship Silver Medallist - \$2000 Entrance Scholarship Sponsor: Western University	\$2 000
Total	\$2 000