

CWSF 2019 - Fredericton, New Brunswick



Jolita Bernard

Language of the Face

Challenge: Discovery

Category: Intermediate

Region: Mi'kmaq Schools

City: We'koqma'q, NS

School:

Abstract: Recognizing your own mood and responding to the mood of others can be a challenge for some individuals. Schools have been teaching students through the "Zones of Regulation" to identify their emotions. What if you don't recognize the emotions of others? This project is based on interviews with 300 individuals in response to recognizing the expression of joy being real or fake.

Biography

My name is Jolita Bernard, I am a 9th grade student at We'koqma'q Mi'kmaw School. I am an active member of the We'koma'q First Nation involved in many aspects of community. I am passionate about my community and furthering the rights of the Mi'kmaq people. I got the idea for my project from a magic trick I saw done on TV 5 years ago about facial expressions. Further research could explore if there are gender differences between responses to the photographs are women or men more adept at identifying emotions. Cultural differences could be explored to extend the research to whether certain cultures identify emotions differently. Another extension could be whether a real individual expressing the emotion rather than a photograph creates a difference in identification. Multiple emotions could be paired with genuine and fake representations to get a bigger picture of the affect. This research would assist others with working with individuals that have difficulty identifying emotions. The advice I would give to other students thinking about doing a project would be that failure isn't the end it is the beginning to further research.

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