

CWSF 2012 - Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island



Jacob Newkirk

Mythbusting Mouth Guards

Challenge: Health

Category: Junior

Region: Yukon Stikine

City: Whitehorse, YT

School: Christ the King Elementary

Abstract: I tested the ability of objects and various mouthguards to absorb energy passing through a metal jaw. Objects that could be deformed did a better job at absorbing energy than any of the mouthguards. My conclusion is we need to rethink how we design mouthguards to prevent concussions.

Biography

I have recently moved to Whitehorse, Yukon from Ottawa and am enjoying my first year here. I snowboard and skateboard, but also play competitive hockey and have for years. My dad makes me wear a mouth guard since they are required in Ontario, even though they are not required in Yukon and BC. He says it helps prevent concussions, i did my project to test this. I would like to further validate my results and since my results didn't show that mouth guards prevent concussions, I thought it might be interesting to look at a different type of mouthguard that would help. My advice to other student doing a project would be to start early!

Awards

Value

Excellence Award - Junior - Silver Medal Sponsor: Youth Science Canada	\$700
Western University Scholarship Silver Medallist - \$2000 Entrance Scholarship Sponsor: Western University	\$2 000
Total	\$2 700