

CWSF 2015 - Fredericton, New Brunswick



Ruchira Gupta

The Nose Knows Not

Challenge: Discovery

Category: Junior

Region: Peel

City: Mississauga, ON

School: Tomken Road Senior P.S.

Abstract: My experiment tests if candles and cleaning sprays are cell mutating and whether beetroot or kale could lessen the severity of the toxins. This was tested on *D. melanogaster*. My results show that from worst to best (most to least cell mutating) are green candle, green Clorox spray, candle, organic spray, and the control group. Also, kale and beetroot consistently negated the negative effects.

Biography

Hi, my name is Ruchira Gupta and I am currently in Grade 8 in the SciTech program at Tomken Road Middle School in Mississauga, Ontario. In my free time, I enjoy dancing, singing, and participating in robotics competitions. In addition, I love participating in sports such as soccer, volleyball, hockey, basketball, and many more. Also, every year since the age of seven, I have sold daffodils and pins to raise money for and awareness of the Canadian Cancer Society. I was inspired to conduct my experiment when I made a connection that two of my friends' fathers had passed away from cancer and both houses always had candles burning and the smell of cleaning sprays. My next steps would be to approach hospitals and ask if they could include a question in their survey to cancer patients about how often they are exposed to candles and use cleaning sprays. My advice to students thinking about doing a project is to choose a topic that they are really passionate about. From experience, I can say that learning about something you are passionate about makes the experience that much more enjoyable and fun!

Awards

Value

| | |
|---|----------------|
| Excellence Award - Junior - Gold Medal Sponsor: Youth Science Canada | \$250 |
| Western University Scholarship Gold Medallist - \$4000 Entrance Scholarship Sponsor: Western University | \$4 000 |
| Total | \$4 250 |