

# CWSF 2019 - Fredericton, New Brunswick



## Davin Martin

### Mealworms ? A Way to Reduce Styrofoam!

**Challenge:** Environment

**Category:** Junior

**Region:** Calgary Youth

**City:** Calgary, AB

**School:** Branton Junior High School

**Abstract:** Mealworms have been proven to eat Styrofoam. Is this a sustainable and viable solution to help with the decomposition of Styrofoam and other micro-plastics? I believe it is and if we use it effectively we can reduce up to 30% of our waste in Canada.

#### Biography

Davin Martin spent most of his childhood living in South East Asia and has seen first hand the impact of human waste and its ecological impact. Upon returning to Canada he used this as a motivation to search for ways to reduce waste. When researching about Sugar Gliders, he came across a study regarding mealworms (Sugar Glider food) and their ability to eat Styrofoam. Wanting to see if this was a way to reduce waste, Davin set out to see if the Mealworms that ate Styrofoam, were able to reproduce therefore confirming that the styrofoam was a viable food source for them. The initial project was successful, and now further research will have to be taken to find out if there is Bioaccumulation in the mealworms eating styrofoam, and if they are toxic to other animals. In addition to enjoying research, Davin is an avid explorer, traveler, sprinter, actor, and loves taking care of his Reptile.

#### 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

