

CWSF 2019 - Fredericton, New Brunswick



Mary Clifford

When Life Gives You Potatoes, Make Plastic

Challenge: Innovation

Category: Junior

Region: Waterloo-Wellington

City: Cambridge, ON

School: Hespeler P.S.

Abstract: Plastic Pollution is a major problem on land and also in our marine environment; affecting nearly 700 species in our oceans. The prediction is by 2050, there will be more plastic than fish in our oceans. This project created bio plastics from plants and tested the biodegradability to create a more environmentally friendly plastic creating materials that will break down faster in landfill.

Biography

Hello! My name is Mary Clifford. I'm in the eighth grade from Cambridge, Ontario. My inspiration for my project came after learning how much plastic is in our marine environment. Plastic has only been around for 112 years but over 150 million metric tons of plastic is in our marine environment. This leads me to my experiment on making bioplastic, creating a more environmentally friendly plastic. To make this plastic I used highly starched vegetables. My next step for my project would be to be able to manufacture it at a larger quantity, faster. My favorite pastimes are playing on two competitive basketball teams, reading, playing the violin, being an active member on my school's athletic council and being a part of an enrichment program which I attend weekly. My love for the ocean came when I visited Baja, California with Lindblad Expeditions to see the migration of the Gray whales. My post secondary/career plans are to study marine biology and travel the world trying to save our beautiful oceans. If you're looking to start a project, find something you're passionate about and try to find a solution to any existing problems relating this topic!

Awards

Value

Excellence Award - Junior - Bronze Medal Sponsor: Youth Science Canada	
Western University Scholarship Bronze Medallist - \$1000 Entrance Scholarship Sponsor: Western University	\$1 000
Total	\$1 000