



# Countdown

TO THE CANADA-WIDE SCIENCE FAIR

YOUTH SCIENCE FOUNDATION CANADA

2005



[www.ysf-fsj.ca](http://www.ysf-fsj.ca)

## Canada-Wide Science Fair 2005 British Columbia

A West Coast Experience  
15 - 22 May, 2005

[http://www.ysf-fsj.ca/Competitions/  
CWSF/Current/](http://www.ysf-fsj.ca/Competitions/CWSF/Current/)



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## Use of Animals In Science Fair Projects

Does your Regional Science Fair have projects involving the use of animals? If you do, then it is important that you understand the YSF Canada policies governing this type of research by elementary and high school students and the responsibilities of Regional Science Fairs to review projects for compliance with these rules.

### Use of Animals

All experimental care and use of animals in Canada is subject to the requirements of the Canadian Council on Animal Care (CCAC), a national, peer review organization founded in Ottawa in 1968. CCAC documentation states: "YSF Canada, amongst its responsibilities, regulates animal experimentation in science fairs."

Research using vertebrate animals for science fair projects may only be carried out in one of four ways:

- > observations;
- > behavioural studies with positive rewards, without any stress involved;
- > any project carried out in a university, medical or industrial laboratory approved by the appropriate Scientific Review Board. (This rule was changed, effective November 2004, to allow any such project.); and
- > studies of mammalian embryos, which are restricted to observation, without intervention with drugs or other chemicals. (The word mammalian is new, effective November 2004.)

Research on invertebrate animals is presently unrestricted, except that the project must have some scientific or educational merit. It is possible to think of projects involving procedures that would be inappropriate, even for invertebrates.

Form 4.1C is used to ensure that the appropriate review of projects involving animals has taken place. For more information, including a copy of the form, a PDF version of the YSF Canada policy document 4.1.2 Use of Animals in Research is available for download from the web site at:

[www.ysf-fsj.ca/Members/pdirectory4.aspx](http://www.ysf-fsj.ca/Members/pdirectory4.aspx)

A detailed presentation of the rules for the use of animals and the participation of humans was given at the CWSF 2004, and you can download the PowerPoint document on the Region Resources page at:

[www.ysf-fsj.ca/Members/regionresources.aspx](http://www.ysf-fsj.ca/Members/regionresources.aspx)

Please distribute the YSF Canada rules on the use of animals in science projects as widely as you can. You are encouraged to link your Regional Science Fair web site to the YSF Policy Directory or to the specific document. Help us to encourage Canada's young scientists to conduct ethical and sound research.

### A Reminder...

Each YSF-affiliated region is expected to set up a Regional Science Fair Ethics Committee – even if it is a Committee of one person – who will undertake to become knowledgeable in the rules and ethical issues surrounding student research. For more information, a PDF version of the YSF Canada policy document 3.1.1.3 Regional Science Fair Ethics Committees is available for download from the web site at:

[www.ysf-fsj.ca/Members/pdirectory3.aspx](http://www.ysf-fsj.ca/Members/pdirectory3.aspx)