Tanner Elliott
Junior Division Medicine & Health

Got Germs?
The purpose of my science fair project is to determine where the greatest abundance of germs are in the Cortez Middle School building. The toilet seats were one of the places with the most germs but the door handles were among the cleanest. I had hypothesized differently. Using sterile swabs, I swabbed 48 areas throughout the school and placed each sample on a petri dish. The dishes were incubated at 37 degrees Celsius at the local hospital's lab for 48 hours. I recorded the number of germ colonies and graphed the results. My data showed that germs were found in the following locales in these numbers: #1-toilet seats (61.17%), #2-keyboards (55.17%), #3-water fountains (50.5%), and #4-handrails (49%), #5 Food areas (30%), #6-toilet handles (24.67%), #7-door handles (16.67%), and #8-locker locks (9.5%). My hypothesis is that there will be germs throughout the school but the worst areas will be the toilet seats and the door handles.