

SCIENCE BUDDIES *in Action*



Student

Ryan Deal
Hughesville, Maryland

Summary

Ryan Deal, a 7th grader with a passion for sports, had a blast doing his science fair project because Science Buddies helped him find a project aligned with his passion.



Overview

Ryan Deal is not an athlete; he is a powerhouse, playing on football, basketball, and baseball teams, and enjoying every minute—on the field, on the court, and on the diamond.

When he was assigned a science fair project by his teacher, Ryan did a Google search and came across the Science Buddies website. By using Science Buddies' Topic Selection Wizard, Ryan was guided to Project Ideas that matched well with his personal interests. After browsing through Project Ideas in the Sports Science subject area, Ryan decided to do the project "Under Pressure: Bouncing Ball Dynamics."

The part Ryan enjoyed most about his project was doing the experiment. To do his experiment, Ryan varied the air pressure inside a basketball and measured how changes in air pressure affected the ball's bounce by dropping the basketball from a ladder and recording the height of each bounce. He discovered that as the air pressure in the basketball decreased, the height the ball bounced also decreased.

Using a Science Buddies' Project Idea made the whole science fair process easier and more enjoyable for Ryan. The information in the Project Idea "helped to make [my project] better. It had good, specific instructions and showed me the specific materials I needed to get."

Ryan didn't enter his project into an actual science fair, but his teacher was impressed by it; he told Ryan that he had done an excellent job and gave him a 96%!

In addition to playing sports, Ryan likes playing video games and hanging out with his friends. He plans to go to college and hopes to make it into professional sports leagues.