

2025 STANSW Young Scientist Awards

Eleanor O'Connor Mona Vale Public School

Project Title: Colourful Crops: How Does Natural Versus Artificial Food Dye Affect A Plant's Growth Rate?

Year 5 to 6 **Scientific Investigations**

Dear Eleanor,

Well done on being part of this year's Young Scientist Awards! Your project shows how much you've learned about exploring real questions, solving problems, and discovering how things work. Completing your project means you've joined other young innovators in testing ideas, trying new approaches, and learning from what you find.

Our judges were impressed by your curiosity, creativity, and effort. They've written some feedback to help you see what went really well and what you might try next time. Every project helps you use and grow the skills and strengths you already have as a STEM problem-solver.

The strengths of your project include:

- using photographs as an additional means of recording data
- including a summary of current and relevant background information

Next time, you could make your project even better by:

- identifying and minimising the risks associated with your investigation

Thank you for sharing your work with us. We hope this experience inspires you to keep asking questions, exploring new ideas, and using your skills to make and discover amazing things. We hope to see more submissions from you in the years ahead!

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading 'Philippa Miller'.

Philippa Miller

Young Scientist Coordinator