STEMTALKS

SPEAKER SERIES 2015

SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING & MATHEMATICS IN ACTION

Wednesday, January 20, 2016
7 – 8 pm

Room 1011 • Durham District School Board
400 Taunton Road East, Whitby ON

Jen Rowsell, PhD Candidate, Trent University

Jen Rowsell is a PhD student at Trent University. She has earned both BSc and MSc degrees in biology (Trent University/West Texas A&M University). Her current research focuses on the reproductive biology of arachnids, with an emphasis on courtship and mating behaviour in camel spiders (Solifugae). The majority of her research takes place in the American southwest, including Arizona and Texas. Jen enjoys sharing her love of arachnids with everyone she meets, and plans to continue teaching and studying arachnid behaviour.

The Biology of Camel Spiders and Arachnid Fieldwork Adventures!

Solifuges, or camel spiders, are extremely poorly understood creatures. Myths and misconceptions concerning this order of arachnids are numerous. This talk will outline basic solifuge biology and behavior, and will include some anecdotes surrounding working with arachnids both in the lab and during fieldwork.

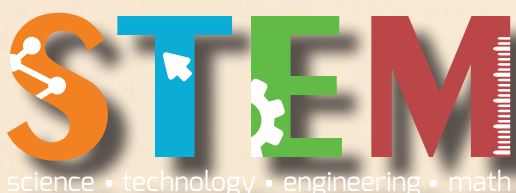### Sarah Langer, MSc Candidate, Trent University

Sarah Langer is an MSc student at Trent University studying forensically relevant blow fly species in Canada. She is currently working with Dr. David Beresford and Dr. Christopher Kyle on assessing blowfly species both phenotypically and genotypically. Their research also aims to assess blow fly distribution across Canada. Following a BSc in forensic science, an MSc focusing on forensic entomology was a natural next step. Sarah enjoys teaching others the wonders of this science, and hopes to continue working with blow flies for many years to come.

Forensic Entomology:
How Insects Can Help Solve Crimes

Insects are just one of many evidence types that can be used to solve a crime. Their most common application to crime scene investigation is in the determination of time since death. This talk aims to cover the basics of their use in estimating time since death and provide case examples for a variety of insect applications.

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