

## 2013 Google Science Fair Finalist



Elif Bilgin has developed a way to use banana peels to make bio-plastics, instead of relying on traditional petroleum. She comes from Turkey, and is 16.

She wrote about the project:

In this project, I developed a method for making plastic by using banana peels and found new areas for the use of the plastic that I manufactured: using the bio-plastic in the making of cosmetic prosthesis and in the insulation of cables.

This project was done over a time period of 2 years. During this time period, I was able to succeed in my endeavor to manufacture plastic that can actually be used in daily life.

She was also crowned the Scientific American Science In Action winner, which honors a project that "makes a practical difference by addressing an environmental, health or resources challenge." She gets \$50,000 and a year's worth of mentoring from Scientific American to help develop her project.

Her role model is Marie Curie.

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