



California Science Center  
**CALIFORNIA STATE SCIENCE FAIR**  
**2001 PROJECT SUMMARY**

**Your Name** (List all student names if multiple authors.)

**Lauren S. Marshall**

**Science Fair Use Only**

**J0219**

**Project Title** (Limit: 120 characters. Those beyond 120 will be ignored. See pg. 9)

**At What Age Is the Transition of Visual Information from Short-Term Memory to Long-Term Memory at Its Peak?**

**Division**

X Junior (6-8) \_ Senior (9-12)

**Preferred Category** (See page 5 for descriptions.)

**17 - Social Sciences (Junior Division Only)**

**Abstract** (Include Objective, Methods, Results, Conclusion. See samples on page 14.)

Use no attachments. Only text inside these boxes will be used for category assignment or given to your judges.

**Problem:** At what age is the transition of visual information from short-term memory to long-term memory at its peak?

**Methods:**

- a) Obtain a simple picture with different objects or creatures with different colors.
- b) Ask 3-5 people of different ages to look at the picture for 1 minute preferably in a place with no distractions.
- c) Come back 15 minutes after the person studied the picture and ask about specific details within the picture.
- d) The test will be done on about 3-5 people per ages, 5-70.
- e) This test will see at what age the transition of visual information works best.
- f) The results will be graphed for easier reference once all the information is obtained.

**Results:** The ages of 11-19 had the highest averaged test scores, 70%. The ages of 20-30 had an average of 60%. The ages of 41-50 had an average of 67.5%. The ages of 51-60 had an average of 40%. The ages of 5-10 and 61-70 had the lowest averages of 20%.

**Conclusion:** Based on my experiment results, I have come to the conclusion that the ages of 11-19 have the best ability of passing visual information from their short-term memory to their long-term memory.

**Summary Statement** (In one sentence, state what your project is about.)

My project tests the strength and development of one's short-term memory and long-term memory.

**Help Received in Doing Project** (e.g. Mother helped type report; Neighbor helped wire board; Used lab equipment at university X under the supervision of Dr. Y; Participant in NSF Young Scholars Program) See Display Regulation #8 on page 4.