California Science Center



CALIFORNIA STATE SCIENCE FAIR 2001 PROJECT SUMMARY

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

Sean J Shanahan Mr.

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

Do You See What I See?

Science Fair Use Only

J1531

Division
X Junior (6-8) Senior (9-12)

Preferred Category (See page 5 for descriptions.)

15 - Physiology

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.

Objective: The objective of my project was to determine if there is a difference in visual perception between males and females. I believe that visual perception is gender biased.

Materials and Method: Fourteen pre-selected images were shown to a group of ten eighth grade boys, and ten eighth grade girls. All subjects were tested under the same conditions and asked identical questions about each picture. Responses were recorded immediately. After all data was collected results were drawn up.

Results: The results of my project were not entirely conclusive. For images that had a definite right or wrong answer there was little or no statistical difference. I did however find that in images where words needed to be discriminated, boys were able to find the words more readily than the girls. Girls perceived multiple images more readily than the boys.

Conclusions: While I was not able to prove or disprove my hypothesis, I did find that there were differences in visual perception between males and females. I noticed that males and females perceived certain images differently. There does appear to be some gender differences in visual perception, but further reasearch is needed to establish this conclusively.

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

My project is about the differences in visual perception between males, and females.

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. Mother helped type report. Teacher allowed use of classroom for testing