



California Science Center
CALIFORNIA STATE SCIENCE FAIR
2001 PROJECT SUMMARY

Your Name (List all student names if multiple authors.) Megan Grant; Peggy Grant	Science Fair Use Only S1814
Project Title (Limit: 120 characters. Those beyond 120 will be ignored. See pg. 9) Project Dark Light: The Effects of Light Deprivation on Hamsters	Division _ Junior (6-8) <u>X</u> Senior (9-12)
Preferred Category (See page 5 for descriptions.) 18 - Zoology	
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.	
<p>Our objective is to determine if the hamsters in the dark cage grow and live better and healthier, activity wise, then the hamsters in a normal set cage. We first painted one of the cages black leaving the holes clear of obstruction. A scale was built to measure food intake and weight. The hamster sets were monitored daily, and their activity levels recorded in a log. Weight was measured weekly and food and water consumption daily. We observed that the hamsters in the normal set cage gained more weight and consumed more amounts of food and water than the hamsters in the black painted cage. The activity levels were also higher in the normal set cage than the black painted cage by means of increased wheel activity and tunnel crawling activity. Our hypothesis was indicated that it was wrong after we concluded that the absence of sunlight in a regular day setting affects the growth and activity levels of hamsters.</p>	
Summary Statement (In one sentence, state what your project is about.) Our project is the study and observatiuon of light deprivation on hamsters and how it affects their life styles.	
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. Father helped build the scale.	