



**CALIFORNIA STATE SCIENCE FAIR  
2007 PROJECT SUMMARY**

<b>Name(s)</b> <b>Emily M. Russell</b>	<b>Project Number</b> <b>J1126</b>
<b>Project Title</b> <b>Fingerprints: A Family Matter</b>	
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Abstract</b></p> <p><b>Objectives/Goals</b> My purpose is to determine if members of the same family have any fingerprint characteristics in common.</p> <p><b>Methods/Materials</b> My methods were first to gather a sampling of family fingerprints on index cards that were identified on the backs of the cards. I sorted the cards by fingerprint pattern without looking at the fingerprint identities. Next, I entered each fingerprint into a table grouped by family noting what type of fingerprint each member had. Finally, I analyzed the data to see if members of the same family had fingerprint characteristics in common.</p> <p><b>Conclusions/Discussion</b> I discovered that heredity plays a large roll in determining a person's fingerprints. A majority of my sample group had fingerprints that match their parent's.</p>	
<b>Summary Statement</b> Does heredity have an effect on fingerprint characteristics?	
<b>Help Received</b> Mother helped me to create visual aspects of project with spreadsheets and word art and she edited my report.	