Name(s)	Project Number
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Project Title
Musca domestica: Carnivore or Sweet Tooth?

Abstract

Objectives/Goals
My project is on the species Musca domestica, (more commonly known as the housefly), and I am testing to see which product will attract the most houseflies: meat, sugar water, or plain water. My hypothesis was that the houseflies would be attracted to the meat more than the plain water or sugar water.

Methods/Materials
Approximately 100 Musca domestica (housefly) pupae were placed in a large clear plastic container. This was connected via tubes to three other plastic containers. The containers had either hamburger meat, sugar water solution, or plain water in them.

At regular intervals the number of flies in each container was counted.

Results
My hypothesis was that the houseflies would be attracted to the meat more than the plain water or sugar water. My result was meat: 49%, plain water: 8%, and sugar water; 43%.

Conclusions/Discussion
I proved my hypothesis because more houseflies visited the meat container than the sugar water or plain water containers. If houseflies only entered containers at random, I would expect them to go in evenly (33 percent), but this did not happen. If only boy houseflies liked sugar water, and only girl houseflies liked meat, I would expect that they would go into the containers equally, but more houseflies went into the meat container.

Summary Statement

My project is on the species Musca domestica (the housefly), and I am testing to see which product will attract the most houseflies: meat, sugar water, or plain water.

Help Received

My parents - purchasing supplies; My dad - cutting the plastic and helping with Excel; My mom - helping with the stove (making sugar syrup); My brother - helping me catch escaping houseflies; Mrs. Fricke, my science teacher - answering my project questions and for project guidance.