

CALIFORNIA STATE SCIENCE FAIR**2001 PROJECT SUMMARY**

Your Name (List all student names if multiple authors.) Brian Mitchem; Elsie Rita Wanton	Science Fair Use Only S0212
Project Title (Limit: 120 characters. Those beyond 120 will be ignored. See pg. 9) False Recognition: Can You Remember?	
Division <u>S</u> Junior (6-8) <u>S</u> Senior (9-12)	
Preferred Category (See page 5 for descriptions.) 2 - Behavioral Sciences	
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. Our objective was to develop a test that would be able to induce false memories into the participants of our experiment. We wanted to study how people are able to convince themselves that they saw or experienced something they did not. We used a list of twelve words, which were all related to another "key" word from the lists that were made. We told the participants to study the list, and then gave them a "test" on what they remembered. This test included several words from the list, several unrelated words, and the "key" word from which the lists were produced. We asked them to choose those words that were on the first list, and give how confident they were of their answers, on a scale of 1-5 next to their answers. We successfully generated lists that were able to repeatedly show evidence of false memories, however for further study we are currently studying the differences in these results between sex and age groups.	
Summary Statement (In one sentence, state what your project is about.) The induction of false memories in different ages and sexes.	
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. Mrs. Miller helped advise us and Mr. Jones helped us gather material for our project.	