



**CALIFORNIA STATE SCIENCE FAIR  
2002 PROJECT SUMMARY**

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<b>Project Title</b> Put Your Best Paw Forward	
<b>Abstract</b> <b>Objectives/Goals</b> Similar to humans a person might think that a cat is right-pawed, but my belief is that cats are left-pawed. <b>Methods/Materials</b> To find the answer, I went to a place called Chateau du Meow. I tested fifty of the three-hundred cats. To test a cat, I laid down a piece of string and slowly dragged it to make the cat want to play. While the cat was playing with the string, I made a tally for each time it struck the string with its right paw or left paw. I spent one to three minutes on each cat. I also had to make sure the cat was not a kitten or an older cat. <b>Results</b> Out of the fifty cats that I tested, twenty-eight, or fifty-six percent of the cats were right-pawed and one used its right paw exclusively. Fifteen, or thirty percent of the cats were left-pawed and three used their left-paws exclusively. Forteen, or seven percent were ambidextrous. <b>Conclusions/Discussion</b> The results of my experiment show that most cats are right-pawed. My results do not support my hypothesis. Even though my results do not support my hypothesis, they do support the fact that cats brains are similar to human brains. There have been experiments done on this subject, but those experiments resulted with cats being left-pawed and not right-pawed.	
<b>Summary Statement</b> Similar to human left/right hand dominance, I was wondering if cats have a similar right/left paw dominance.	
<b>Help Received</b> Johanna helped supply the cats; Mother helped me structure my report; Sister helped tally the results.	