

# CALIFORNIA STATE SCIENCE FAIR 2005 PROJECT SUMMARY

Name(s)

LeeAnn A. Patrick

**Project Number** 

**J1631** 

**Project Title** 

**Good Vibrations: How Does Music Affect Plant Growth?** 

### Abstract

## **Objectives/Goals**

My objective was to find out if music affected plant growth and if so, how?

### Methods/Materials

First I ordered 50 fast plant seeds for the experiment. Then I built four boxes out of plywood and I fitted sound proof foam insulation. I planted the fast plant seeds in black planters and put together the reservoirs for watering. I put a planter and reservoir in each box with a CD player out front and headphones inside with the plants. Everyday for twenty days I checked on the plants and recorded their growth.

#### Results

Silence grew the best and healthiest followed by spoken word (Harry Potter). Classical music (Vivaldi concertos) ended up just under spoken word. Bringing up the rear was a very small and unhealthy plant that was 'listening' to heavy metal and (harsh) world music (Mudvayne and Rammstein).

### **Conclusions/Discussion**

From my twenty days of information gathering I have drawn the conclusion that all music/spoken word affects plant growth negatively. Some plants were affected more negatively than others. So I can just repeat an old saying, 'Silence is golden.'

# **Summary Statement**

Discovering how music and spoken word affect plant growth.

### Help Received

Mother helped take photos and set up board; Father helped build boxes and set up project; Got advice from my science teacher, Mr. Kinsella.