



**CALIFORNIA STATE SCIENCE FAIR
2006 PROJECT SUMMARY**

Name(s) Maria Elena Pino	Project Number J0327
Project Title It's White, Right?	
<p style="text-align: center;">Abstract</p> <p>Objectives/Goals It's White, Right? is an experiment to test the mental flexibility of a person by asking him or her to say the color of the text of a word while suppressing his or her reading of the word.</p> <p>Methods/Materials Two pretests confirmed that the subjects were literate and could identify color. The subjects used a computer program to record their answers and the time elapsed on each trial.</p> <p>Results The results proved my hypothesis true, showing that it took longer to determine the correct answer in the third test than the simple tests on word and color. It did take longer to complete Test 3 than it took to complete the other tests. Not only did people take more time on Test 3, but they also got less correct on that test. It took an average of 14.41 seconds to complete test three with an average of only 8.17 correct out of ten. This is a large difference from the average of 12.71 seconds to get 9.58 correct out of ten on Test 1 and the 9.89 seconds to get 9.77 correct out of ten on Test 2.</p> <p>Conclusions/Discussion In conclusion, this experiment proves that the mental flexibility of a person is heavily strained when one has to change one's response from the word he or she read to the color he or she sees.</p>	
Summary Statement My project, titled "It's White, Right?," uses the Stroop Effect to test mental flexibility.	
Help Received I did this project with the assistance of the Colina Middle School computers.	