

# CALIFORNIA STATE SCIENCE FAIR 2011 PROJECT SUMMARY

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# **Project Title**

**Deep Sea Jaws** 

#### **Abstract**

# **Objectives/Goals**

This experiment focuses on the mouth morphology of four different deep-sea fi of which engage in vertical migration, and two of which who do not. In this experiment, I will be measuring the jaw length of several different deep sea fishes. My hypothesis is that deep sea fishes who do not engage in vertical migration have jaw lengths that are greater in proportion to their bodies compared to deep sea fish who do engage in vertical migration.

#### Methods/Materials

Step 1: set out dissecting tray and materials

Step 2: put on gloves

Step 3: open first jar of fish

Step 4: take one fish out carefully with tweezers

Step 5: use the millimeter side of caliper to measure sandar

Step 6: record the measurements in notebook

Step 7: use millimeter side of caliper to measure jay

Step 8: Repeat steps 4-7 for remaining samples of that species Step 9: repeat steps 3-8 for each type of fish in the order: 1. Stenobrachius leucopsaurs, 2. Cyclothone acclinidens, 3. Serrivormeridae sector, 1. Anodaster cornota

### **Results**

My results supported by hypothesis that deep sea fish who do not engage in vertical migration have larger jaw lengths in percentage to their body lengths, than fish who do. The two fish who did not engage in vertical migration did have larger laws while the two fish who did had smaller jaws. However, one fish who engaged in vertical migration and one fish who did not, have similar jaw sizes. That is why I would measure and study more fish for my results to be even more valid.

#### Conclusions/Discussion

Evaluating the evidence and measure ment in my experiment supports the hypothesis that deep sea fish who do not engage in vertical high tion tend to have jaw lengths that are greater in proportion to their bodies compared to deep sea fall who do engage in vertical migration. There is enough data to support my hypothesis, however more research and experiments might better support it.

This experiment would be stronger if additional fish species from higher waters were also measured. It

would allow comparisons of the jaw length of fish that live in an environment where food is abundant to the jaw length of the deep sea fish that were used in this experiment. In addition, the results would be

#### **Summary Statement**

This experiment foc ses on the mouth morphology of four different deep-sea fish and what causes these adaptations.

#### Help Received

My teacher acquired the fish used in the procedure and my father measure fish and glue my board.