

CALIFORNIA STATE SCIENCE FAIR 2014 PROJECT SUMMARY

Name(s)

Gianna A. Guzman

Project Number

J1509

Project Title

Growing a Soil Menagerie

Abstract

Objectives/Goals

My objective was to find out what different types of organisms grow in different environments and whether they prefer light or darkness.

Methods/Materials

Materials used were: mud, sand, and water collected from the beach and a creek, slim soda bottles, rubber bands, saran wrap, desk lamp, LED flashlight.

Procedure: I collected mud from the Laguna Canyon Creek and sand from Laguna Beach, as well as water from both locations. I put the samples into empty water bottles to be used as Winogradsky columns. I placed two of the bottles (one with sand and one with mud) directly in the sunlight during the day and under a desk lamp during the night. Two other bottles have remained in the dark. These bottles have been sitting for about 14 weeks.

Results

The soil samples began to grow different types of organisms throughout the 14 week period.

Conclusions/Discussion

My conclusion is that the majority of the organisms that grew in the creek mud did not thrive in the beach sand and that they prefer the sunlight.

Summary Statement

My project is about the different microbe colonies found in different environments and how do they react to light and darkness.

Help Received

My mother helped me by driving me to the different sites to collect samples, type the report, and collecting and prepping supplies.