

Name(s)

Project Number

Raya Abu-Tarif; Alesha Qureshi; Jude Tahrawi

J1201

Project Title

The Effect of Age on Lung Capacity

Abstract

Objectives

The objective of this project is to determine how age affects lung capacity.

Methods

1 liter soda bottle, 1 camera, 1 balloon, chemical- Bromothymol blue, Straws- 3 for each person, 75 cotton balls, Digital Timer, Test Subjects-People with different age ranges: 25 people in all, pH strips 75- Brand: lab supplies, 1 Ruler, Gloves- 4 pairs, Goggles-3 pairs, Distilled water Temperature: 90.7 F, mL measuring cup, 1 pair of adult scissors, 1 toothpick

Results

We found that people who were younger took a shorter amount of time than those who were older. However, those in the age range of 17-25 years took the shortest amount of time to change the color of the solution, they also got the best and most consistent pH. We also found that the people that were really young and really old were taking multiple breaths in between. But those in the middle of those two age ranges didn t take many breaths, meaning that they could hold their breath for a longer period of time. Overall, we found that the age range 17-25 years took the least amount of time while still getting very good results for their pH that were consistent.

Conclusions

Our hypothesis was that as people age their lung capacity decreases. Our independent variable was the people s age. Our dependent variable is the amount of time taken to change the color of the chemical solution. Our controlled variable was the amount of the chemical and water in each trial. Our hypothesis was proven correct because the amount of time it took for older people to get the perfect pH took longer than someone who is younger. This proves that it becomes harder for older people to exercise and move around. Therefore, as you age your breathing pace lessens but it still produces good air quality.

Summary Statement

After testing the time and ph of different people we found that as you grow older it takes longer for you to produce good quality air.

Help Received

We built the testing device on our own, however we got information from the website sciencebuddies.org to do the experiment



Name(s) Project Number

Sae Ackerstein

J1202

Project Title

Warming Seas, Warmer Seals: How Different Seal Species Thermoregulate

Abstract

Objectives

In order for the seal population to endure global warming, these animals are likely to need to adapt to warmer water temperatures. As the water temperatures increase, these seals may have to increase their capacity to cool off so they will not overheat. I wanted to see which of the three species I observed (Hawaiian Monk Seal (Tropical), Bearded Seal (Arctic), and Ringed Seal (Arctic) would be able to do this the best based on thermal imagery.

Methods

In December of 2018, I went to Dr. Terrie Williams office at Long Marine Laboratory at The University of California, and used an infrared camera to take pictures of three different seal species, a Ringed Seal, a Bearded Seal, and a Hawaiian Monk Seal. The infrared camera captures the surface temperature of the object you point it at and by using this device, I was able to identify major areas of each seal that lose or retain the most heat. Using two apps called Flir One and Flir Tools, I took pictures of the seals and then analyzed them.

Results

There is a correlation between the size of the seal and the amount of heat loss. The Monk Seal is the largest seal, weighing 192.5kg with an average maximum temperature of 25.62 (C). In contrast the smallest seal, the Ringed Seal, weighs 29.9kg and has an average maximum temperature of 18.08 degrees (C). The difference between the maximum and minimum average temperatures within an individual seal decreases as the seal gets smaller, The Ringed Seal is smallest, showing about 5 degree difference; the Hawaiian Monk Seal is largest and has around a 7 degree difference.

Conclusions

The Hawaiian Monk Seal displays many of the highest temperature data points, including the highest and third-highest, and the data shows very little range between temperatures. This suggests that the Hawaiian Monk Seal would be able to adapt the most easily, based on my hypothesis that seals with the ability to release more heat will find adaptation to climate change easier.

Summary Statement

I used thermal imagery to compare temperatures in various body parts of three species of seal in an effort to understand the species relative ability to adapt to warming ocean temperatures.

Help Received

I developed this project independently but received advice and access to the three seals from my mentor, Dr. Terrie Williams of the UCSC Long Marine Laboratory.



Name(s) Project Number

Amogha Akkati

J1203

Project Title

Effects of Exercise: Changes in Carbon Dioxide Output

Abstract

Objectives

My goal was understanding how carbon dioxide in your breath was affected when you did exercise and when you were calm. The question is what happens to carbon dioxide levels in exhaled air before and after physical exercise.

Methods

- 1. Fill one clear plastic bottle half full with distilled water and add one teaspoon of the 0.04% bromothymol blue solution to observe a green color.
- 2. Cut about two inches from one side of the tube for the aquarium pump. Insert the safety valve in between both pieces of tube.
- 3. Cut a two-inch piece off a straw. Use this as the outlet tube of the respirometer.
- 4. Using the aquarium pump tube, the straw, and the modeling clay, set up the respirometer. Make sure that the inlet tube reaches all the way to the bottom of the bottle. The outlet tube should stay above the indicator solution.
- 5. Fill the second bottle with the same amount of water as the first one and again add one teaspoon of bromothymol blue solution. Make sure the solution has the same color as the previous one and set the bottle aside as a control for color comparison.
- 6. Use the Science Journal app to monitor the color change of the indicator solution. In this project, people can use the app to record the color change in the solution once the pH indicator turns from neutral to acidic. Open the Science Journal app on a phone and select the light sensor. Clearly label the experiment and recordings.
- 7. Lean the phone against a box or books with the light sensor facing sideways towards the respirometer. Then place the respirometer in front of the light sensor. Put the flashlight in front of the respirometer so it shines through the indicator solution directly onto the light sensor. Do not move the flashlight or the phone while recording data.
- 8. Confirm that the sensor readings are stable. Then, press the record button and take a deep breath; start exhaling through the inlet tube into the indicator solution for as long as it is possible. Try to exhale from the lungs and be careful to not block the sensor with the tube. Inhale through the nose when necessary, and then continue blowing into the solution.
- 9. Stop recording once the maximum sensor readings level off and are stable for more than 15 seconds. The sensor readings should start to stabilize once the indicator solution has changed color from green to yellow.

Summary Statement

My project explains how exercise effects Carbon Dioxide output in exhaled air in different conditions using a respirometer.

Help Received

None. I designed, built, researched, and performed the experiments myself. My parents monitored me while I was doing this experiment.



Name(s) Project Number

Ameera Alkwadri; Jasmine Hassan

J1204

Project Title

Testing the Correlation between Hypothyroidism and Type 2 Diabetes in Down Syndrome Patients

Abstract

Objectives

The objective of this project is to see if there is a link between Hypothyroidism and type 2 diabetes in patients with Down syndrome.

Methods

In order to test how Hypothyroidism relates to type 2 diabetes we surveyed 24 subjects, 12 with Down syndrome and 12 without. We hypothesized that if patients with Down syndrome have hypothyroidism then they are likely to develop type 2 diabetes. We surveyed patients within the same age group to check if a relationship exists between Hypothyroidism and type 2 diabetes in patients without Down syndrome.

Results

Our results showed that of all subjects surveyed, 25% of subjects without down syndrome had type 2 diabetes and hypothyroidism, and 33% of the same group had type 2 diabetes without hypothyroidism. Within the group that had Down Syndrome 25% of the subjects had type 2 diabetes and hypothyroidism, and 0% had type 2 diabetes without hypothyroidism. Even though the percentage of patients who had type 2 diabetes that did not have down syndrome was higher than the patients that had down syndrome, in all patients with down syndrome the patients had both type 2 diabetes and hypothyroidism.

Conclusions

Based on our data it was proven that all Down syndrome patients who had type 2 diabetes had hypothyroidism. Therefore we can conclude that hypothyroidism is a contributing factor to type 2 diabetes in patients with Down syndrome.

Summary Statement

This project was to prove that a link exist betweentype 2 diabetes and hypohyroidism in patients with Down Syndrome.

Help Received

We did this project on our own. Our teacher, Mrs. Alshanableh helped with guiding and motivating us. Our mothers drove us to where we needed to be and supported us throughout the project.



Name(s) Project Number

Gabriel Berger

J1205

Project Title

Ears vs. Eyes

Abstract

Objectives

The purpose of this project was to find what humans react to faster, sound or light and how the pitch or color affects the reaction time.

Methods

To administer the tests, the coding language Scratch was used to make a program and said program was administered on many different people who were both male and female, ranging from 11-73. When the program was initiated by the subject, the test would invoke a random stimulus (sound or light) at a random frequency, begin a timer and wait for the subject to hit the spacebar. When the spacebar was hit, the timer would stop and the program would record the test type (sound or light), the frequency and the time results. After this, the lists of results would be exported into a folder for analysis later on.

Results

After administering the test on twenty different people, I found that the sound average reaction time was faster than light and that frequency didn t have a meaningful effect on the reaction time for both sound and light.

Conclusions

After thoroughly looking at the data, it can be concluded that the hypothesis was wrong due to a lack of trends and patterns in said data.

Summary Statement

My project is about human reaction time and what factors affect it.

Help Received

I consulted with my Dad about any problems I had while building my program on Scratch.



Name(s)

Project Number

Madison Bigham

J1206

Project Title

Does Psyllium Affect the Amount of Sand in the Horse's Digestive System?

Abstract

Objectives

My goal in completing this project was to determine the effectiveness of psyllium in reducing the amount of sand in horse s digestive system.

Methods

I collected manure samples from two horses prior to administering psyllium and subsequent to the administration of psyllium. This process occurred over a two week time frame and was tested twice, therefore resulting in four weeks of testing. I used plastic bags and water to separate the sand from the manure, and utilized a gram scale to measure the sand.

Results

My results indicated an increased amount of sand in each horse s manure samples subsequent to the administration of psyllium. There was a 17.2 gram increase of sand for horse one and an eight gram increase of sand in horse two. His proved that psyllium is effective in reducing the amount of sand in the horse s digestive system.

Conclusions

In conclusion, I found through my investigation that Psyllium is effective. I discovered that it will reduce the risk of sand colic by decreasing the amount of sand in the horse s digestive system. Therefore, Psyllium should be used by all horse owners to diminish the probability of the horse colicing due to sand.

Summary Statement

In this project I tested the effectiveness of psyllium by reducing the amount of sand in a horse s digestive system by collecting manure samples.

Help Received

I received help from my science teacher as well as my parents, my topic and procedure was reviewed by my vet for my horses.



Name(s)

Logan Burns

Project Number

J1207

Project Title

Can We Improve Sleep by 25% for Only 25 Cents?

Abstract

Objectives

33 percent of American adults and 80 percent of teenagers do not get enough sleep. Yet, poor sleep is a major risk factor for breast cancer, colon cancer, prostate cancer, and many other health problems. Improved sleep is tied to increased melatonin production in the body, but other than taking melatonin supplements, most people do not have an easy way to increase melatonin in their bodies. The objective of this project is to determine whether a simple and inexpensive sleep mask improves the quality and quantity of sleep.

Methods

My project measured sleep quality and quantity for 14 participants over two weeks. The participants did not wear an eye mask during the first week but did wear one during the second week. I created a control group of four participants that did not wear an eye mask at all during both weeks. I used Google Forms to create a questionnaire in order to learn about each participant's sleep and other habits and also the weekly sleep logs each participant kept. After I received the completed questionnaire and sleep logs from everyone, I used Google Sheets to analyze the data.

Results

For adult participants, who were the main target of my research, total average weekly sleep hours improved by 5.7 hours, which is 12.5 percent, but the control group sleep hours only improved by 12 minutes. Total weekly sleep hours for the four children who participated in the survey increased by only 30 minutes. For both adults and children, sleep quality improved by 18% versus only 4% for the control group. Participants who did not drink alcohol had the biggest increases in hours slept. Participants who slept next to someone who snores had almost no increase in sleep hours, but the people who they slept next to (the people who snored) who also wore the mask increased their sleep hours by 30%!

Conclusions

Rather than using expensive and possibly harmful melatonin supplements, a simple eye mask works very well in improving sleep hours and sleep quantity. Plus, an eye mask only costs 25 cents on Alibaba. In the future, this research can be expanded to include more people and more time wearing the mask. Some people said it took a few days to get used to the mask and the results would have probably been better if I had more time. Also, someone should invent a better sleep mask that doesn t fall off as much.

Summary Statement

I showed that sleep quality and quantity can be dramatically improved using an inexpensive eye mask

Help Received

My parents helped me set up my questionnaire in Google Forms and also paid for the eye masks. They also helped me with the layout of my project board.



Name(s)

Project Number

Jason Caminiti

J1208

Project Title

The Effects of Music on the Cardiovascular System

Abstract

Objectives

The object of this study was to find out if music can change heart rate and blood pressure.

Methods

To conduct this experiment I needed an Equate Digital Blood Pressure Monitor, IJOY Bluetooth headphones, an iPhone timer, a MacBook Air computer, and music. The subjects sat down and did nothing for five minutes. And then had their blood pressure and heart rate read. After that, they listened to music for 3 minutes and then had their heart rate and blood pressure read again. The same was done with the other types of music. For my control, I used no music and then tested the subject heart rate and blood pressure.

Results

I found that Classical music decreases heart rate and blood pressure the most and rap music increases heart rate and blood pressure the most which was different from my hypothesis.

Conclusions

Classical music decreased the heart rate and blood pressure the most because it had a very slow tempo. And rap music increased the heart rate and blood pressure the most because of the fast tempo. The slower the tempo the more your heart rate and blood pressure will change, and the faster the tempo, the more your heart rate and blood pressure will increase. The classical music's tempo I used for this experiment was 38 bpm which is very slow, and for rap, the tempo was 163 bpm which is extremely fast. The information gained from my project can be used by every person who has high blood pressure or heart rate and wants to bring them down. Also if somebody is stressed out, slow music can bring down stress levels.

Summary Statement

I found that classical music decreased the heart rate and blood pressure the most, and rap music increased the heart rate and blood pressure the most.

Help Received

I designed and conducted the experiment by myself, and my mom, who is my science teacher, helped me with this project as well.



Name(s) Project Number

Faith Day

J1209

Project Title

The Effect of Tongue Type on the Ability to Taste PTC Paper

Abstract

Objectives

The objective of this experiment was to determine the relationship between tongue type and the ability to taste the chemical PTC.

Methods

71 volunteers were given a piece of PTC paper and rated the taste or the absence of taste. The results were recorded and added on to a google spreadsheet. The materials of this experiment were PTC paper, google spreadsheet and chromebook, phone camera, food dye, tweezers, cotton swabs, petri dish, and water.

Results

Those with tongue type one will have small gustatory cells and will either barely taste or not taste PTC paper. Those with tongue type two will have large gustatory cells and will taste PTC paper strongly.

Conclusions

In this experiment, it was proven that tongue type does affect the ability to taste PTC paper. When the gustatory size increases the ability to taste the chemical will become greater. When the gustatory cells are small, then the taste will be lesser.

Summary Statement

In this experiment, I tested the relationship between the size of human bitter taste receptors (papillae/gustatory cells) and the interprutaion of the chemical paper PTC.

Help Received

My project mentor is Mr. Dan Dummett. I also received advice from teachers; Mr. Chris Thibodeau and Mrs. Meghan Salter.



Name(s) Project Number

Chloe Dorman

J1210

Project Title

The Perfect Toy: Which Toy Do Dogs Prefer?

Abstract

Objectives

This project looks at which type of toy a representative sample of dogs prefer.

Methods

Soft toy, rope toy, hard toy, template for spacing, measuring tape, sample of dogs from local dog park. After recording the breed and height of the test subject, the dog was positioned three feet from the evenly spaced toys and allowed to select their preferred one.

Results

After sampling a statistically significant number of dogs, the soft toy was preferred over the hard and rope toy. The size and breed of the dogs was not a significant factor in the results. This was primarily due to the texture of the toy, which was supported by studies of dog behavior in relation to color and other senses.

Conclusions

This project gives dog owners guidance about the type of toy their dogs might prefer. By sampling a statistically significant sample of dogs, these results are applicable to the 89.7 million dogs in the United States.

Summary Statement

I was able to determine toy preferences in dogs.

Help Received

My father assisted with calculating a statistically significant sample size and my science teacher assisted with the important variables to control for.



Name(s) Project Number

Raya Farber; Zoe Stern

J1211

Project Title

Now You See It, Now You Don't

Abstract

Objectives

The objective of this study is to determine the effect of color on the appearance and timing of afterimages.

Methods

White paper, construction paper in multiple colors (red, orange, yellow, green, blue, and purple), Raspberry Pi board, Raspberry Pi Sense HAT (with RGB LED light matrix), computer, glue, scissors, stopwatch, data sheets, subjects (human) - 10 sixth graders, 10 adults (ages 25-70). We tested subjects with colored circles as well as LED lights to evaluate the experiencing and length of time of afterimages.

Results

Several subjects were given light and paper tests in various colors. Based on length of time of afterimages, red appears to create the longest lasting afterimage compared to the other colors.

Conclusions

When given the light test, participants saw an afterimage for an average of 7.88 seconds. When given the paper test, participants saw an afterimage for an average of 11.15 seconds. These afterimages mostly matched the expected colors from the R,G,B cones that weren t fatigued. We think the paper images persisted longer because our procedure called for the subject to stare at it longer, more fatiguing the eye.

Summary Statement

Our project is about the effect of color on the appearance and timing of afterimages.

Help Received

The actual tests were run independent of help. Support from our STEM instructor, Liat Baranoff, was provided to set up the Raspberry Pi unit. She also helped us calculate the data.



Name(s) Project Number

James Glenny

J1212

Project Title

The Vitruvian Kid: A Study of Mathematical Relationships in the Human Body

Abstract

Objectives

During the Renaissance, Leonardo da Vinci studied "de Architectura," by Vitruvius, seeking out ways to perfect his art, at which time he created one of his most famous drawings, The Vitruvian Man. Da Vinci, as an artist and even scientist worked to perfect human bodies in his work and used what is known as The Golden Ratio or The Divine Proportion. I studied these ratios and wondered, Could there be perfect human body ratios for kids? I used da Vinci s research largely to set an expected adult outcome. With consent of parents, I gathered kids ages 7-17 of both genders and recorded body measurements such as the circumference of the neck, wrist, head and waist. I also recorded the length of the arm span, height of the person, and a few other parts. Setting da Vinci s adult human body ratios as the expectation, I hypothesized that the majority of kids body ratios would meet the expectations of the adult Golden Ratio. I was correct as I discovered that children's bodies ages, 7-17 do meet many of the ratios of an adult body and therefore grow proportionally with time. Males most closely matched the Golden Ratio that da Vinci obsessed over, as expected, since the historic research is male based. I did make some new discoveries that younger children, ages 7-12, have a few unique body ratios of their own, not liken to adult ratios, and were consistent to one another within their age group. This experiment has implications for art, health and explaining unconscious beauty. "The Vitruvian Man" was drawn over 500 years ago. The human diet and physical activity levels have changed dramatically, yet body ratios remain nearly the same. Taking simple measurements of children is a simple health diagnostic tool and could aide in medication management if understood further. Interestingly, 500 years later we still have an unconscious attraction to certain body types and symmetry. Understanding ratios of children can also be used for economic gain in marketing products. Lastly, art benefits from understanding children's ratios. During da Vinci's time, many pictures of children looked more like miniature adults instead of children.

Methods

Materials I used included a measuring tape, a seamstress measuring tape, a pencil, a recording sheet and children volunteers, ages 7-17 with parent consent.

Results

Every gender and age (7-17) had a arm span:height ratio approximately 1:1. Children had neck circumference: waist circumference , wrist circumference: head circumference, and wrist circumference: waist circumference ratios, with a 25% variance compared to standard expectations. Lastly, females, 13-17 had the largest difference in ratios to the standard v males 13-17.

Summary Statement

The Vitruvian Kid is a mathematical study of human body ratios in children for health, art and economic benefit.

Help Received

I designed the experiment myself and completed the measurements of my subjects on my own. I had help from my dad in setting up formulas under Excel for calculating my results.



Name(s) Project Number

Serene Hayyeh; Sumaya Nagy

J1213

Project Title

Chili Plaster Pain Relief

Abstract

Objectives

Nowadays consumers are buying organic materials rather than synthetic chemicals. We are aiming to relieve common pains such as arthritis, back pain, muscle pain, and gout pain using natural remedies. A compound mixture containing chili powder without any chemicals added will be used as a topical pain relieve to alleviate the pain without resorting to synthetic chemicals.

Methods

In this research, we investigated if the capsaicin in chili powder can be used as a form of a natural topical pain reliever. Our independent variable was capsaicin paste application. The dependent variable was to measure the healing/pain relieving effect of the paste and the amount of time it took to relieve the pain. The Controlled Variable was to test on the same body part, amount of time to measure effectiveness, and amount of paste. We made a compound mixture containing chili powder capsaicin without any chemicals added. We also made a compound mixture with the same color and without capsaicin to act as a placebo. We predicted that the capsaicin mixture will act as a natural pain reliever on patients suffering from joint pain. We tested ten participants twice, once with the capsaicin cream, and another with the placebo. We tested both mixtures on the forehand first to make sure the subject did not develop an allergic reaction.

Results

After testing both mixtures; the one with the active ingredient capsaicin, and the placebo, results showed that most subjects felt considerable pain relief after the capsaicin ointment than they did with the placebo. 70% of the subjects tested had a lower pain scale by the end of the hour with the paste that had the active ingredient. 30% of the subjects reported a lower pain scale after the one hour with the placebo. Most of the subjects remarked that they would rather use a natural pain relief than a chemical one.

Conclusions

Results supported our hypothesis by showing that most subjects felt considerable pain relief after the capsaicin ointment than they did with the placebo. Using the chili plaster nowadays is becoming more economical to consumers. It is made of organic ingredients and it does not have any side effects. If you are looking for natural alternatives to topical pain relievers, then chili plaster is inexpensive and easily available. If we were to follow up on this project, we would like to test the medicinal effects of other natural ingredients as topical pain relievers, like turmeric and chamomile.

Summary Statement

Our project is about finding natural alternatives to topical pain relief using capsaicin for patients with arthritis.

Help Received

People whom we could not have done this project without are our mothers, Maha Yasin and Fatima Nagy for guiding us and providing us with the materials needed, and our science teacher Rula Alshanableh for guiding us and helping us through out the project.



Name(s) Project Number

Kaylee Kautz

J1214

Project Title

Spherical Food

Abstract

Objectives

Objective: I use a process called reverse spherification to make juice flavored spheres. The objective is to determine which flavored sphere tastes the best.

Methods

Materials and Methods: When I make the spheres, I use two different chemical combinations: calcium lactate with sodium alginate and calcium chloride with sodium alginate. I made four different flavors of spheres, using the two chemical combinations. With my science teacher s permission, my classmates tested the eight spheres. Each flavor was designated by a letter and everyone ranked which sphere they thought was the best. Comments were also requested.

Results

Results: The spheres that were made with the calcium lactate tasted the best overall. The strawberry flavor, however, was the overall winner. Most of the comments indicated that many of the spheres seemed too salty.

Conclusions

Discussion: In conclusion, the calcium lactate makes a better tasting sphere than the calcium chloride. I hope that I am given another opportunity to do redo my taste test with other flavors so that it proves that the spheres made with calcium lactate taste better. I would like to change the components in the spheres to reduce the saltiness and make the spheres better to eat.

Summary Statement

When making spheres, you use two chemicals to create a gel like bond around a liquid juice.

Help Received

Lori Bloathner, David Voit, Doug Modlin



Name(s) Project Number

Leila Kessler

J1215

Project Title

Dog Aid: Chew Deterrent Wound Dressings

Abstract

Objectives

The objective of this project is to utilize a dog's high sense of smell as the solution to creating an improved method of treating their wounds and injuries.

By combining natural essential oils with traditional wound dressings, I wanted to create new devices or methods that are more effective than "dog cones" at preventing dogs from aggravating their injuries and prolonging recovery times.

Methods

Peppermint and Lemon Essential oils, plaster, adhesive bandages, and aluminum sheets. Added essential oils to bandages and created casts to test the effectiveness of scents, even with temptations that dogs are not willing to resist.

Results

Several dogs were tested using their preferred treats to see how resistant they would be toward the specific scents. These trials were repeated in order to see just how persistent each dog was. When each dog could no longer withstand the scent's aroma, they would no longer attempt to get to the treat.

Conclusions

The trials taken in testing have proved that dogs can show resistance, even when they are tempted with an aliment of their liking. It is to be concluded that dogs can show the same amount of resistance when faced amoung a wound that they want to chew at.

Summary Statement

My project is corely based on finding ways to stop dogs from chewing at their wounds because it can slow down the healing process, or stop it entirely.

Help Received

Michael Kessler and Mrs.Price.



Name(s) Project Number

Madeleine Larson

J1216

Project Title

Gender and Bitter Taste Perception

Abstract

Objectives

The objective of the study is to determine whether females perceive bitter taste differently than males.

Methods

Used Google spreadsheet to record the data. Tested with cocoa beans, coffee beans, PTC paper, and arugula using human test subjects.

Results

After 179 people were tested with my items, the testing showed a major difference in bitter taste perception between males and females. The largest difference occurred with the cocoa beans and the smallest with the arugula.

Conclusions

Proving my hypothesis correct, females taste bitter flavors stronger than males. If foods have gone bad or rancid there is a greater chance of a woman tasting that it is bad due to a female's stronger sense of taste. The reason for the difference in flavor perception is not known, but my hypothesis is that when humans were hunters and gatherers the women were the gatherers and they needed to know what plants were safe to eat. Therefore, I have come to the conclusion that females perceive bitter taste stronger than males.

Summary Statement

I tested 179 subjects with bitter foods and found the average bitter rating with males and females, coming to the conclusion that girls perceive bitter taste stronger than boys.

Help Received

Dan Dummet, Chris Thibodeau, Natalie Wasley, and Union Hill school.



Name(s) Project Number

Isabelle Luna

J1217

Project Title

Effects of Various Feed Container Patterns on Dairy Goat Consumption

Abstract

Objectives

The reason I chose this project is because of my love for animals and wanting to help strengthen the relationships between them and humans. Understanding animal behavior is one of the keys to this goal.

Methods

The materials I used in my project consisted of Goat grain obtained from my local feed store, white and black feed containers and white duct tape to make the patterns on my buckets. These materials were all purchased at local stores such as Walmart. With these materials, I created different patterns on each of the 6 buckets for the goats to choose from. The goats were isolated from the feed container area so they did not all run in together and affect their individual decision making process.

Results

The black bucket was the most preferred bucket. The least was the checkered pattern bucket. The goats did not make an immediate decision, they thought about it as well as checked their surroundings before choosing.

Conclusions

The black bucket was the most preferred over the buckets with patterns. What is interesting, is the goats did not simply come into the pin and choose a bucket. They had to get comfortable with me first so that they trusted me. They then made sure the other goats were calm and seemed to agree with their choice. This leads me to believe that the goats made a conscious decision rather than acting on instinct or impulse.

Summary Statement

The goats made a cognitive decision and chose the solid black bucket over the patterned ones.

Help Received

my Parents provided resources and my Grandfather allowed me to use his herd of goats for testing. Dr. Gale O'bannon, a local Veterinarian gave me advice on making sure the goats were safe during my tests.



Name(s) Project Number

Soquel Macdonald

J1218

Project Title

Deer Crossing

Abstract

Objectives

I wanted to find out if deer would cross a road more quickly if mountain lion scent (urine) was present in a limited concentration in the middle of the road. My hypothesis was that with the mountain lion scent deer would cross the road more quickly but with the same frequency as without the scent.

Methods

Capsules, cotton balls, mountain lion urine, water, drill, two game cameras, two roads with natural deer traffic. Using two sites, one with mountain lion urine capsules in the road (experiment) and one with water capsules in the road (control), I compared deer captured on game camera per 48 hours. I also compared the time it took each deer to cross the camera s field of view (as a surrogate for time it takes to cross the road). Each experiment lasted 48 hours, followed by a 24 hour break, and then experiment and control sites were switched and the experiment repeated for a total of four times.

Results

The average number of deer per 48 hours for the combined controls vs. experiments was 6.3 ± 5.9 vs. 3.0 ± 2.2 deer (p = 0.34). The average seconds in the field of view for combined controls vs. experiments was 6.2 ± 3.6 vs. 7.6 ± 3.3 seconds (p = 0.27).

Conclusions

My results did not support my hypothesis, suggesting fewer deer per day and slower crossing in the experiment arms, rather than the opposite. According to my statistical analysis these differences were possibly due to chance. If the mountain lion scent truly caused the differences I observed, I think this may have happened because the scent had the effect of either scaring the deer away or causing them to proceed slowly and cautiously.

Summary Statement

Deer do not cross roads more quickly when in the presence of mountain lion scent.

Help Received

Dusten Macdonald, Nick Albert(fish and game warden), Heidi Macdonald, Mr.Haller, Darren Ward (Biology professor)



Name(s) Project Number

Nicholas Meksavanh

J1219

Project Title

Virtual Reality: Fun or Harmful?

Abstract

Objectives

The purpose of this experiment is to measure the short-term effects of virtual reality on the body, specifically our biology related to heart rate and blood pressure. The goal is to find evidence on whether this new technology will have a positive or negative effect on users when we become immersed in this environment.

Methods

Two videos were presented to 22 volunteers, thrilling and calming experiences. For every other volunteer, videos shown were rotated to eliminate any order biases. Before the VR sound box headset was placed on each volunteer, their blood pressure and heart rate were measured by a wrist electronic sphygmomanometer and recorded in the journal. The 1st video was played and after each minute, heart rate and blood pressure were measured and recorded again. This is repeated for the 2nd video.

Results

It can be concluded that peoples heart rate and blood pressure rises from their baseline while watching both types of virtual reality video. Everyone in the experiment had increased heart rate while watching both virtual reality video, especially people under 18 years of age and self-identified gamers. However, heart rates were lower for people over 18 years of age than any other demographic groups. But they exhibited higher increases in blood pressure during the experience, especially among males in this group.

Conclusions

With every new consumer product there are potential harmful effects that directly or indirectly affect people. More and more households are using this new technology daily. But there is still very little research done on its effects. While new technology is fun and exciting there could be potential negative short-term and long-term effects on us if used for extended periods of time. The results from my science project provides insight into the effects of virtual reality on our biology, mainly how it affects the heart and blood pressure in a negative way. Using virtual reality for just two minutes volunteers showed signs of stress due to intense immersion, especially among females under 18, female gamers, and adult males who already have high blood pressure conditions. Our body reacts to change in our environment quickly and in virtual reality it is even quicker. Using these products may have longer term damaging effects as well if users are immersed for extended periods or repeatedly.

Summary Statement

I showed that being immersed in any virtual reality environment has short-term negative affects on our heart and blood pressure.

Help Received

My aunt, Dr. Tran, explained to helped me understand heart rate and blood pressure measurements. My parents provided me with the virtual reality goggles, virtual reality headset, and sphygmomanometer.



Name(s)

Project Number

Gabriela Munoz

J1220

Project Title

Effects of Background Light Intensity on Eye Fatigue

Abstract

Objectives

The objective of this project is to test which surrounding light intensity would cause greater eye fatigue while on electronics.

Methods

In this project, three subjects read the Snellen Chart using their right, left, and both eyes to measure eye fatigue. Each subject read line by line until he or she could not read anymore letters. Then, each subject read for 30 minutes on their electronic device. Three different background light intensities were used: 100%, 50% and 1%. To evaluate eye fatigue, the subjects were asked to reread the Snellen Chart using their right, left, and both eyes.

Results

The amount of eye fatigue was determined by the percent accuracy calculated when reading the Snellen Chart. When both eyes were evaluated there was less eye fatigue at the lowest light intensity. However, when the individual eyes were tested, there was less eye fatigue at the highest light intensity. In addition, the analysis shows that our eyes work more efficiently in brighter or dimmer light but have, on average, the most eye fatigue in between light intensities.

Conclusions

The hypothesis was that the dimmest background light intensity would affect eye fatigue the most while using electronics. The data did not support my hypothesis as the analysis shows, on average, the most eye strain was caused by reading at the in between intensity. Based on the data, the recommended intensity to read at is at least 49.6 lux. I did this experiment because I wanted to see if there was another way to decrease eye fatigue that individuals could control and not be dependent on electronic companies.

Summary Statement

This project was done to evaluate which surrounding light intensity would cause greater eye fatigue while using electronics.

Help Received

I performed and designed the experiment myself. My science teacher, Marcia Nogueira, and Dr. Lorena Barron helped review my results.



Name(s) Project Number

John Page

J1221

Project Title

Got Juice? Analyzing Drinks for Athletes

Abstract

Objectives

My objective for this project was to find out which drink(s) best enhances one s athletic performance.

Methods

Indoor basketball court, stopwatch for timing, clipboard, a chart to record the suicide drill times. For each participant, they drunk 16.9 fluid ounces of Propel, 14 fluid ounces of Nesquik chocolate milk, 11.5 fluid ounces of Simply Orange orange juice or 14 fluid ounces of Dasani water. I tested 13 students running suicides after drinking various liquids. On each day of testing, I gave my subjects (i) 12 ounces of water, (ii) a bottle of Propel which contains 230 mg of sodium, (iii) a bottle of Simply Orange orange juice which contains 640 mg of potassium or (iv) a bottle of Nesquik chocolate milk which contains 400 mg of calcium. Instead of giving each participant the same amount of each electrolyte being tested, each participant consumed a single bottle of each liquid as an athlete would purchase at a store or at a gym. One hour after drinking the liquids, each student ran one suicide drill. I used a stopwatch to time each drill and recorded each time on a chart.

Results

After testing all of the various sports drinks, the data supports my hypothesis that Propel best enhances one s athletic performance. Next time you wonder which sports drink to reach for during a workout, I strongly advise Propel! However, Propel is not the only drink out there and so if I could further my study, I would test more drinks such as Powerade and monster.

Conclusions

After collecting and analyzing my data, it appears that Propel produces the best athletic performance. 46.2% of the students ran their fastest suicide drills after drinking Propel, 41.7% ran their fastest drill after drinking chocolate milk, 7.7% ran their fastest drill after drinking orange juice and only one student ran his fastest suicide drill after drinking plain water. Also, 38.5% of the students ran their slowest suicide time after drinking water, 30.8% of ran their worst time after drinking orange juice, 25% ran their slowest time after drinking chocolate milk and only one student ran his slowest suicide drill after drinking Propel. After drinking Propel, the average suicide time was the lowest at 31.72 seconds. The average suicide time after drinking orange juice and chocolate milk tied with an average time of 31.91 seconds. Though very close, water had the worst average suicide time with an average of 31.92 seconds. Not only did Propel have the fastest average suicide time, but drinking Propel also improved participants running performance by an average of 84.6% as compared to water, while chocolate milk and orange juice

Summary Statement

As an athlete who is always looking for ways to improve my athletic performance, I tested the liquids orange juice, Propel and chocolate milk, to determine if any of these liquids enhanced physical performance as compared to water.

Help Received

For my project, I received help from my P.E teacher to find times for my subjects to run drills in our schools gymnasium and my mother to help me purchase the drinks I tested.



Name(s)

Project Number

Varun Salwan

J1222

Project Title

How Does Mindful Meditation Affect the Blood Pressure and Heart Rate?

Abstract

Objectives

How Does Weight Affect Blood Pressure?

Abstract

Objectives/ Goals: My project was to determine how weight affects blood pressure in adults. I believe that as our weight or BMI (body mass index) increases, our blood pressure will go up as well.

Methods

Methods and Materials: I measured the BMI (derived from the weight and height of the individual) and checked the average blood pressures of 30 people (15 men, 15 women) with a blood pressure cuff. I checked the blood pressure on 3 separate occasions over 3 weeks. I excluded people who had a preexisting condition of high blood pressure or on any medications that would lower blood pressure.

Results

Results: The experimental results supported my hypothesis by showing that as the BMI increased, so did both systolic and diastolic pressures. In people who are underweight (BMI <18.5) the average blood pressure was 110/68, 118/74 in people with a normal BMI (18.5-24.9), 132/82 in overweight individuals (BMI 25-29.9) and 138/88 in the obese (BMI>30).

Conclusions

Conclusions: My conclusion is that as our weight (BMI) increases, so does our blood pressure.

Summary Statement

My project is about how mindful meditation can effect your blood pressure and heart rate in a positive way.

Help Received

My dad who is a doctor, Arvind Salwan, M.D.



Name(s) Project Number

Aray Shah

J1223

Project Title

Face Time: Do Facial Parameters Change over Time?

Abstract

Objectives

The objective of this project is to determine if a person s facial parameters change over time. With increasing use of facial recognition as a method of identification, it is relevant to determine how its effectiveness might change over time as a person s face ages. This project tests the hypothesis that some key ratios of facial geometry do not change over time.

Methods

To test this hypothesis, before and after facial portraits from 16 subjects taken at least 5 years apart were analyzed. For each portrait, 6 unique facial feature distances - for example, eye-to-eye distance - were measured using Microsoft PowerPoint, and using these measurements, 15 unique key facial geometric ratio s (FGRs) - for example, eye-to-eye distance to ear-to-ear distance were calculated using Microsoft Excel. Next, for each of the 15 FGRs, ratio-of-ratios (RORs) were computed from the before and after portraits to quantify the relative change in the FGRs for that person. Finally, tolerance acceptance criteria were applied to determine which, if any, of the FGRs had changed over time.

Results

Based on the measurements and analysis, 4 of the 15 FGRs studied changed less over time compared to the other FGRs, as follows:

- 1. Eye/Eye-Eye
- 2. Eye-Eye/Ear-Ear
- 3. Eye-Eye/Nose-Mouth
- 4. Ear-Ear/Nose-Mouth

Conclusions

The results directionally indicate that certain FGRs change less over time compared to other FGRs, and may be useful in facial recognition techniques.

However, a substantially larger number of samples, more accurate and/or automated measurement techniques, and tighter tolerances for acceptance criteria would be required to prove the hypothesis conclusively.

Summary Statement

Based on measurements of pictures of subjects taken years apart, it was found that some facial geometric ratios change less over time.

Help Received

My dad helped me with using Powerpoint and Excel, and Mr. N Dalal, an expert data scientist, gave me guidance in establishing acceptance criteria.



Name(s) Project Number

Reeya Singh

J1224

Project Title

The Effect of Temporary Blindness on Hearing

Abstract

Objectives

The objective of this study was to test if blinding people temporarily would cause a measurable improvement in hearing.

Methods

I used The Mimi Hearing app to to test participants hearing, an iPad was used to facilitate the test, a blindfold to temporarily blind the participants and an over-ear headphone to hear the test.

Results

My data shows an overall improvement in hearing for both left and right ears and both age groups (over 40 and under 40). I tested 17 people in each age group. Finally, in order to ensure the applicability of my results I ran a p-test over the data and found that all p-values were less than .05, showing statistical significance. Thus, we can stipulate that even in a larger population temporary blindness should result in an increase in both left and right ear hearing level at all ages.

Conclusions

My study confirms the hypothesis that when subjects are temporarily blinded, their ability to hear will improve. The study demonstrated a significant improvement in hearing after subjects were temporarily blinded, compared to their hearing at baseline.

Summary Statement

I was able to show an increase in hearing level when one was temporarily blinded vs. normal sight.

Help Received

I designed, built and performed the experiment myself. I asked an E.N.T how to measure hearing. After calculating my p-values, my cousin taught me more in depth about statistical significance.