

CALIFORNIA STATE SCIENCE FAIR 2002 PROJECT SUMMARY

Name(s)

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Project Number

Project Title Who Can Follow the Yellow Road?

Objectives/Goals

Abstract

My hypothesis is that people will trace the star better and faster with their dominant hand and that left handers will trace the star better than right handers overall.

Methods/Materials

I tested 101 subjects age 11 and up, both male and female. I obtained informed consent from all subjects. The subjects looked in a mirror at the road an traced a star pattern. Each subject completed the star with their dominant and non-dominant hand and were timed.

Results

I tested 74 right handers and 27 left handers. The average age of the subjects tested was 33.2 years. The average time of right handers with their dominant hand was 93.4 seconds. The average time of left handers with their dominant hand was 102.4 seconds. The average time of right handers with their non-dominant hand was 63.3 seconds. The average time of left handers with their non-dominant hand was 68.9 seconds.

Conclusions/Discussion

The data shows that people did better with their non-dominant hand. The data also shows that right handers traced the star faster but left handers stayed in the lines more.

Summary Statement

Subjects were tested to determine their ability to trace a star while looking in a mirror.

Help Received

Mother helped with research; Father helped with testing subjects; Aunt helped with release form.