

CALIFORNIA STATE SCIENCE FAIR 2003 PROJECT SUMMARY

Name(s)
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Project Title

The Growth of Microscopic Protozoa

Abstract

Objectives/Goals

The objective of this project is to see how different types of food affect protozoa.

Methods/Materials

Six water samples that had Protozoa in them with a food sample from each category on the food pyramid were put into each jar and observed. The categories on the food pyramid are sugar, meat, dairy, fruit, vegetables, and wheat bread. Two drops of water from each jar were put onto an eyepiece one at a time to be observed. The microscope was set at 40x normal vision. These samples were looked at four times throughout the whole project. Any kind of life was noted.

Results

The results prove that 90% of the time sugar had the most protozoa. At no time did I find any protozoa in the water sample with cheese in it. These water samples were compared to a plain water sample and none of the other water samples had more protozoa then the plain water.

Conclusions/Discussion

Out of all the discoveries I made I think the most important one I learned was that if you put any types of food in the water your killing off protozoa. Protozoa are the little microscopic animals that keep our water clean in the first place. So keep food out of our water supply.

Summary Statement

My project is about how protozoa are affected by the six different food groups on the USDA food pyramid.

Help Received