



**CALIFORNIA STATE SCIENCE FAIR  
2004 PROJECT SUMMARY**

<b>Name(s)</b> Caitlin M. Mercado	<b>Project Number</b> <b>J0326</b>
<b>Project Title</b> <b>Is There a Strong Correlation between a Student's Motivation and Achievement at Their Ability Level?</b>	
<b>Abstract</b> <b>Objectives/Goals</b> The purpose of this project is to determine if there is a strong correlation between a student's motivation and their achievement at their ability level. <b>Methods/Materials</b> (1) Choose students to test (2) Administer Self-motivation survey (3) Gather CAT6 scores for tested students (4) Gather GPA's for tested students (5) Determine achievement levels for students (6) Determine students ability (7) Determine students motivation (8) Evaluate students motivation to students achievement at ability level. <b>Results</b> Preliminary results indicate that students with a high motivation could have lower achievement grades in school because of low motivation. Also, it showed that as a child's motivation went up their ability to perform increased by 6%. Children with low ability levels were also excelling children with high ability levels because of this 6% increase in achievement. <b>Conclusions/Discussion</b> A student's ability did not affect how they performed but their motivation did. The average of the students tested, motivation brought their ability to perform up 6%. I believe that a child with high ability may be receiving a "D" in school or even a grade as low as an "F" because of lack of motivation from peers, self, and family. Also, I think the older children get the more motivation affects their achievement in school. Even though, behavioral problems was not directly part of my project I think that they do cause more intelligent children to get lower grades then they should.	
<b>Summary Statement</b> The purpose of this project is to determine if there is a strong correlation between a student's motivation and their achievement at their ability level.	
<b>Help Received</b> Miss Kutzner helped me with motivation studies. She also gathered scores that I could not get due to confidentiality.	