

CALIFORNIA STATE SCIENCE FAIR 2006 PROJECT SUMMARY

Name(s)

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Project Number

J1522

Project Title

Viscosity's Effect on Liquid Droplets

hiectives/Coals Abstract

Objectives/Goals

This project was done in order to determine whether the property of fluids, viscosity, has an effect on the shape of a liquid#s droplet. The hypothesis was viscosity affects the shape of a liquid#s droplets. It also stated that liquids with higher viscosities have longer droplets and longer necks, because they take more time to separate and stretch out before dropping.

Methods/Materials

- 1. A stopwatch
- 2. A digital camera with multi-burst function
- 3. Straws cut into 5cm pieces
- 4. Graph paper
- 5. Water
- 6. Oil
- 7. Maple syrup
- 8. Chocolate Syrup
- 9. milk
- 10. Isopropyl
- 11. A ruler

The viscosity was determined by passing the liquid through a five centimeter straw and timing how long it takes to cover the distance. This gave a general idea of the viscosity of each liquid, because the longer a fluid takes to flow through the straw, the higher its resistance to flowing. Thus, its viscosity is higher. A sheet of graph paper was taped to the wall with the ruler taped to it. Eachliquid was squeezed into a dropper and dripped constantly. While the drops were dripping, pictures were taken from a digital camera that was set on multi-burst function.

Results

The results of this project proved that the viscosity of a liquid does not affect the size or shape of its droplet so that the liquid with a higher viscosity has a longer neck.

Conclusions/Discussion

My project could have been affected by human error, timming miscalculations, space provided, air pressure, and inaccurate calculations.

Summary Statement

My project experiments to find out whether the viscosity of a liquid has an affect on the shape of its droplet.

Help Received

Sister helped time, father helped take pictures