



**CALIFORNIA STATE SCIENCE FAIR  
2006 PROJECT SUMMARY**

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| <b>Name(s)</b><br><b>Lily C. Viramontes</b>   | <b>Project Number</b><br><b>S0318</b> |
| <b>Project Title</b><br><b>Short Term Memory: Girls vs. Boys</b>  |                                       |
| <b>Abstract</b><br><b>Objectives/Goals</b><br>My goal was to determine what types of short term memory, boys and girls could remember, and how much they would remember in total.<br><b>Methods/Materials</b><br>I used groups of between 10 and 15 students to test my theories, small pieces of paper with 10 pictures and written words on them for the students to memorize, and I also read Dr. Seuss aloud to the classes I tested.<br><b>Results</b><br>I averaged the scores for boys and girls for each test. I found that girls remembered an average of seven pictures, seven and one half written words, and seven words spoken aloud. I also found that the boys remembered an average of six pictures, six written words, and six spoken words.<br><b>Conclusions/Discussion</b><br>I found that in my small samples the girls remembered more than the boys on all the tests. This however does not mean that my tests were accurate: my sample size was fairly small and the differences between the number of words remembered were also fairly small. To determine whether the differences would be accurate in the real world I used a T-test to find the percentage that the results were significant. I found that only the written word test would have been statistically certain that the girls would do better, and although the others were very unlikely that the boys would do better I could not be certain. |                                       |
| <b>Summary Statement</b><br>My project compared the short term memories of boys and girls.  |                                       |
| <b>Help Received</b><br>Mother helped with procedure, teachers let me come into classes to run tests, and math teacher helped with T-test.  |                                       |