

CALIFORNIA STATE SCIENCE FAIR 2008 PROJECT SUMMARY

Name(s)

Sam V. Heinz

Project Number

J1116

Project Title

Don't Blink: A Study of How Focus Affects Blinking

Abstract

Objectives/Goals

The objective is to find out how focus affects the semi-voluntary function of blinking.

Methods/Materials

I obtained informed consent from all my subjects. I created a program to record how often each subjects blinked. I tested and reviewed each subject for a set length of time for each activity while recording how often they blinked. The activities were playing a 3D videogame, playing a 2D videogame, reading a book, and staring at a blank wall.

Results

My results show that being focused can reduce blinking down to only two blinks a minute. Being bored can make you blink up to once every 5 seconds.

Conclusions/Discussion

My conclusion is that my subjects blink less when they are focused. On the other hand when my subjects were unfocused or not interested, they blinked much more frequently.

Summary Statement

My project was to test how focus affects how often a subject blinks.

Help Received

Mother helped glue papers to the posterboard.