

CALIFORNIA STATE SCIENCE FAIR 2008 PROJECT SUMMARY

Name(s)

Grace A. Kumaishi

Project Number

J1120

Project Title

Take a Deep Breath: Lung Capacity, Age, and Exercise

Abstract

Objectives/Goals

The purpose of this project is to see what effects age and exercise have on lung capacity.

Methods/Materials

My apparatus was made with a 1 gallon water bottle, plastic tubing, and a plastic tub. I filled the container with water, flipped it over into a tub of water (without spilling any) and put the tube into the opening of the bottle. Volunteers, ranging in age from 5-72, filled their lungs and blew into the tube, displacing water in the bottle. The amount displaced was their lung capacity.

Results

I found that people ages 18-49 had the greatest lung capacity and at around the age of 50, it began to decrease. Exercise doesn't seem to be as closely related to lung capacity as age.

Conclusions/Discussion

My conclusion is that age has a significant effect on lung capacity, while exercise doesn't have as much of an effect.

Summary Statement

The purpose is to see what effects age and exercise have on lung capacity.

Help Received

Parents helped get materials; Mother helped to proofread writing.