CALIFORNIA STATE SCIENCE FAIR
2008 PROJECT SUMMARY

Name(s)
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Project Number
J1435

Project Title
Microwave Radiation's Effect on the Growth of Bacteria

Abstract

Objectives/Goals
Measure the impact of microwave radiation on the growth of bacteria

Methods/Materials
I made an incubator out of a lamp and a box. Then I put the milk into the incubator for four days. After this, I placed the milk into the microwave for various lengths of time: 5, 10, 15, 20, 40 and 120 seconds. Then, I took a q-tip and dipped it into the milk and smeared the sample onto the agar. After that I put the many samples into the incubator. I observed the agar with the bacteria and compared the growth of bacteria.

Results
If the heat levels are not high enough in a microwave, then it will prompt bacterial reproduction.

Conclusions/Discussion
A microwave is generally safe to warm food in as long as heat level becomes high enough.

Summary Statement
This experiment was done to measure the effect of microwave radiation on bacterial growth.

Help Received
Brother helped prepare the board; Dad helped fill the application; Mom helped get all the materials.