

CALIFORNIA STATE SCIENCE FAIR 2008 PROJECT SUMMARY

Name(s)

Elexis S. Padron

Project Number

J1525

Project Title

Comparing the Toxicity Levels of Various Types of Vitamins on Planarian

Objectives/Goals

Abstract

The purpose of my project is to compare the toxicity levels of various types of vitamins on planarian. This science project investigates how toxic different vitamins are to other organisms

Methods/Materials

Bisected planarian were placed in two different amounts of vitamin solutions. I compared a set of groups with a mixture of: twenty-five milliliters of pond water and one milliliter of vitamin; to a set of groups with twenty-five milliliters of pond water and four drops of vitamin; and one control group with just twenty-five milliliters of pond water.

The planarian were bisected between the anterior (head) and the posterior (tail). Then I placed them in a mixture of pond water and vitamin solution in a Petri dish and compared them with planarian in a control group filled with pond water only.

I used four different vitamins: vitamin A, vitamin B12, vitamin D, and vitamin E.

I used a control group so I can compare how fast they would die in their regular environment as opposed to the environment with vitamins. I observed the planarian daily, recording how many died each day until they were all dead.

Results

The results of my investigation of the toxicity levels of different vitamin solutions on planarian clearly indicates that vitamin E is the most toxic to planarian

Conclusions/Discussion

Vitamin D is the least toxic to planarian and vitamin E is the most toxic. The vitamins we take to keep us healthy are toxic to planarian. The concentration of the vitamins was too high for the planarian.

Summary Statement

My project evaluates the effects of four different vitamins on planarian.

Help Received

Mother helped cut/glue paper to board on evenly, father supervised experimentation and supported me the whole way.