

## CALIFORNIA STATE SCIENCE FAIR 2008 PROJECT SUMMARY

**Project Number** 

S1108

Name(s)

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### **Project Title**

# Stop, Drop, and Stare

#### **Objectives/Goals**

Abstract

We are trying to determine how much a dog's age affects their understanding of a spatial relationship between objects.

#### Methods/Materials

1. A large number of dogs to test, with owner's cooperation, between 25-50 dogs.

2. Dog treats (strong smell)

3. Low table or tray (top needs to be above dog's eye level. You can hold a tray above the dog's eye level for large dogs)

4. Small cushion or towel

#### Results

The data that we collected from our tests showed that the middle-aged dogs have a better understanding of spatial relationships between objects.

#### **Conclusions/Discussion**

We have come to the conclusion that middle-aged dogs have a better understanding of spatial relationships between objects. To further explain this, the middle aged dogs have a larger percentage of looking at the table, instead of their surroundings. The younger dogs had a hard time concentrating while the test were being performed. The results of the younger dogs were very close to those of the middle-aged dogs, but yet not complimentary. We also noticed that the older dogs had very low percentages, but it was partly because we had many more young-aged dogs than old-aged dogs.

#### **Summary Statement**

We are trying to see if age affects a dog's understanding of a spatial relationship between objects.

#### Help Received

Mom did lots of spell checking (I'm dyslexic)