

## CALIFORNIA STATE SCIENCE FAIR 2009 PROJECT SUMMARY

Name(s)

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**Project Number** 

J1402

#### **Project Title**

# Can Bricky and Indy Coexist?

### **Objectives/Goals**

#### **Abstract**

Our Science Fair Project involves our dogs, Bricky and Indy. Our question is Can Bricky and Indy coexist? Prior to this project, our dogs could not interact together, and acted somewhat aggressively, especially Indy. Our goal is to expose our dogs to each other repeatedly to see whether they can coexist without being aggressive.

#### Methods/Materials

Procedure:

From the first interaction to the fifth interaction, it will be approximately three weeks. We hope to expose our dogs to each other at three times a week and as much as five times a week.

Step One: Dogs (both but separate) training refresher

Step Two: A series of Interactions, exposing the dogs to each other.

First Set of Interaction(s): Dogs walk at distance but beside each other on neutral ground

Second Set of Interaction(s): Dogs walk beside each other

Third Set of Interaction(s): Dogs face each other

Fourth Set of Interaction(s): Dogs interact up close with leash

Fifth Set of Interaction(s): Dogs interact without leash

Our dependent variable is the way the dogs act when together. Our independent variable is the way we treat the dogs. This includes training, number of interactions, and the way we interact with our dogs.

#### **Results**

The dogs were able to interact without acting aggressively much faster than we anticipated.

#### **Conclusions/Discussion**

In conclusion, our hypothesis was partially incorrect and partially correct. We were correct in that Indy and Bricky were able to interact off leash successfully. Our hypothesis was not correct in that it only took seven interactions versus the 12 to 20 interactions we predicted. Our experiment went even better than we planned. Because of this, the dogs no longer act aggressively towards each other and can interact together on a daily basis.

#### **Summary Statement**

Our project focus is to have our dogs interact together repeatedly to see whether they can coexist together without being aggressive.

#### Help Received

Parents helped handle the dogs.