



**CALIFORNIA STATE SCIENCE FAIR
2009 PROJECT SUMMARY**

Name(s) Melanie Voskanian	Project Number J1731
Project Title Is the Five-Second Rule a Myth?	
Objectives/Goals The #Five-Second Rule# states that the amount of bacteria an object collects when dropped on the floor depends on how long it was on the floor. I am trying to find out if that rule is a myth, and whether wet or dry food collects more bacteria. I hypothesized that time is not a factor in the amount of bacteria an object will collect, and that wet food will collect more bacteria.	
Abstract	
Methods/Materials I took a cracker and salami and rubbed them on petri dishes. I dropped a cracker and salami on the floor, picked them up after three seconds, and rubbed them on petri dishes. I did the same thing, but I waited thirty seconds instead of three. I did the same thing again, waiting sixty seconds. I repeated each step three times. I waited three days, examined the dishes, and collected data.	
Results I found that time is not a factor in the amount of bacteria an object will collect when dropped on the floor, and that both foods collected about the same amount of bacteria.	
Summary Statement I am trying to find if time is a factor in how much bacteria an object gathers, and whether wet food will collect more bacteria than dry food when dropped on the floor.	
Help Received My dad helped me during my experiment.	