

# CALIFORNIA STATE SCIENCE FAIR 2009 PROJECT SUMMARY

Name(s)

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**Project Number** 

**S1414** 

## **Project Title**

# Determining if Child Proof Containers Are Really Child Proof: Are Child Proof Containers Really Safe from Children?

## Abstract

# Objectives/Goals

My objective was to determine if child proof cleaning products, pill containers, and liquid medicines would really protect kids from successfully obtaining the substances inside the childproof containers.

#### Methods/Materials

Materials: Clovis pet hospital pill container, TUMS container, SNO BOL drain cleaner container, normal prescription container, Febreze container, Nighttime cough medicine container, Liquid Plummer container, and Genuine Bayer aspirin container.

Method - I tested 50 kids from ages 2-7.(300 kids total) Each kid was given 8 different child proof containers. Each container has a unique way of opening.

Test 1 - each child was given 1 minute to open container

test 2 - Simulation of parent opening container - No verbal cues were given, kids observed me open containers. They were then given one more minute to open container.

### **Results**

2 year olds - 2% of the children could open the child proff containers with no promt while 8% of the children could open the containers after given a prompt. This age group did the worst of all the age groups.

7 year olds- 60% of the childen could open the containers whith no prompt and 74% of the children could open the chold proff bottles after given a prompt. This age group did the best out of the 6 different age groups.

Other ages varied inbetween; however every age group improved after given a promt.

#### **Conclusions/Discussion**

I learned throughout my project, that children are able to open childproof containers and that even children as young as two are able to open the childproof bottles. Also that the children can open the childproof containers better after watching someone open them beforehand. People should be aware that childproof containers are not always safe from kids, especially if they have watched someone open these containers beforehand.

In conclusion children are not necessarily safe from substances inside of childproof containers. Many parents and anyone who is around children should not trust that the childproof containers will keep the kids out of them, children are able to open these containers and they are able to open them easier if they have seen someone open the container before.

# **Summary Statement**

My project will help determine if child proof containers are really child proof.

## Help Received

Parents helped set up appointments in classrooms and preschool to test the children.