



**CALIFORNIA STATE SCIENCE FAIR
2012 PROJECT SUMMARY**

Name(s) Marco E. de Cardenas	Project Number J1208
Project Title Is a Dog's Mouth Cleaner than a Human's?	
Abstract Objectives/Goals My objective was to learn if a dog's mouth has more bacteria than a human's. My hypothesis was that a dog's mouth would be cleaner because I had heard that a dog's saliva can heal wounds faster and thought this might apply to my experiment. Methods/Materials The materials I used were agar plates, cotton swabs, a kindle for note taking, and a camera. I took five dogs and five humans. I swabbed each tongue and gum-line from 6:30-7:00pm. After every time I swabbed their mouth, I then swabbed it onto an agar plate. I let each group sit for five days before counting the bacterial colonies. Results The results of my experiment showed that in each round, a dog's mouth had a higher sum of bacterial colonies. These followed my goals and objectives as planned with few problems. Conclusions/Discussion The project results proved my hypothesis false. This expanded my knowledge about a dog's mouth and a human's mouth. I learned many different types of bacteria. These results can also help people know to better take care of their teeth after I told them that they need to take better care of their or their pet's mouths.	
Summary Statement The purpose of this experiment was to see if a dog's mouth has more bacteria than a human's.	
Help Received My father drove me to subject's houses. My father payed for all of the needed supplies.	