

## CALIFORNIA STATE SCIENCE FAIR 2013 PROJECT SUMMARY

Name(s) **Project Number** Carly J. Murray **S1297 Project Title** Does Man's Best Friend Have a Paw Preference? **Abstract Objectives/Goals** My objective was to discover if canines have paw dominance or are ambidextrous. Methods/Materials I used a sample of 10 dogs, enough treats for each dog a total of 15 times, a leash, and adhesive tape. I performed a total of 3 tests. Each was performed five times on each dog. First was a lead (the foot that takes the longer stride when the animal is cantering) test. The second test was which foot the dog stepped out with first from a standstill. The third and final test required a small piece of adhesive tape to be placed on the top of the dog's nose; which ever foot the dog used the most to attempt to remove the tape was recorded. Results My results were that the majority of the dogs preferred their left paw over their right. **Conclusions/Discussion** In conclusion, dogs do have a paw preference. Most dogs prefer their left paw over the right. **Summary Statement** My project is questioning if dogs are like humans and have a preference in which paw they use the most. Help Received I had no help.