

CALIFORNIA STATE SCIENCE FAIR 2015 PROJECT SUMMARY

Name(s)

Zachary B. Follett

Project Number

J1709

Project Title

See the Light: A Study of Measuring Electromagnetic Wavelengths

Abstract

Objectives/Goals

The purpose of my project was to determine if common household supplies could be used in building an effective way to measure wavelengths of a spectrum.

Methods/Materials

For the first experiment a CD was attached to a wooden platform. The glasses were then filled with water, and 4 drops of food dye were dropped into each glass. The glasses were then aligned with an LED light and the CD, which showed a spectrum of colors and pictures were taken. For the second experiment a linear diffraction grating was used to separate the light shown through colored water contained in glass cuvettes. A software application analyzed all pictures.

Results

The results of my experiment supported my hypotheses that a spectrum could be accurately captured and measured using common household supplies.

Conclusions/Discussion

The information gained form this project can be used to show that science experiments can be done with common household objects and without spending a lot of money.

Summary Statement

To demonstrate that household materials can be used to perform effective scientific experiments.

Help Received

My dad helped buy supplies and set up software application.