



**CALIFORNIA STATE SCIENCE FAIR
2017 PROJECT SUMMARY**

Name(s) Kirsten E. Killian	Project Number J1308
Project Title Pawsitively Predominant! Do Dogs Have a Dominant Paw?	
<p style="text-align: center;">Abstract</p> <p>Objectives/Goals My objectives and goals for this experiment were to find if dogs have a dominant paw or prefer a paw.</p> <p>Methods/Materials I used: 30 dogs, paper, pencil, dog treats, sticky tape, and a stopwatch. I went to the owner's house held a treat tightly in my hand, and set a timer for 2 minutes. Next, I put a piece of tape on top of the dog's snout, and set a 2 minute timer. Finally, I had the dog sit and stand to see what paw they lead with.</p> <p>Results I found that dogs do have a dominant paw. I also learned that 60% of males were right pawed and that females tied in right and ambidextrous with 35.5%</p> <p>Conclusions/Discussion Since dogs do have a dominant paw, if training your dog to shake, or high five you can focus on the paw for that gender. If I could reconstruct this experiment I would get a bigger sample size and test all of the dogs in a bland room so that there are no distraction to the dogs and they are focused only on the tests.</p>	
Summary Statement I showed that all dogs, both male and female, have a dominant paw and this can make successful dog training easier.	
Help Received I conducted the experiment on my own and received help from Korea Nydick a scientist at Sequoia National Park. She steered me in the right direction in where to find information about dog handedness.	