

CALIFORNIA SCIENCE & ENGINEERING FAIR 2018 PROJECT SUMMARY

Project Number

J1314

Name(s)

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Project Title Preferred Playtime

Abstract

To objective of this study is to determine the preferred playtime toy for 3 different dogs.

Methods/Materials

Objectives/Goals

3 dogs were individually tested with 12 dog toys of various sizes, textures, colors and shapes. Dogs were observed over a period of 4 days with timed trials of 4 toys/trial, 3 trials/day for 2 minutes/trial with the favorite toy in each category advancing to the final test trial.

Results

The favorite toy after all time trials conducted was the large orange squeaky ball. This toy was the clear winner for two of the three dogs and a preferred toy for one dog.

Conclusions/Discussion

Out of the hypotheses predicted, 2 out of the 3 were correct. The conclusion from this is that the frequently played with toy was due to the squeaking sound of the ball. This sound was satisfying to the dogs ears because of their sense of prey drive. This entire process has taught me to test many subjects and have different variables in the experimentation process. Otherwise, there will be nothing to compare the information from the experiment with.

Summary Statement

Through a series of timed trials, I determined the preferred playtime toy of three dogs and possible reasons for this favoritism.

Help Received

I designed and performed the experiments by myself. I had three friends who offered their dogs for testing in their home environment.