

CALIFORNIA SCIENCE & ENGINEERING FAIR 2018 PROJECT SUMMARY

Name(s)

Pola V. Pietrzkowski

Project Number

J1923

Project Title

The Effect of Music, Noise, and Silence on the Germination of Seeds

Abstract

Objectives/Goals

The purpose of this project was to see if the germination of seeds could be affected by music differently than noise or silence.

Methods/Materials

Cucumber and radish seeds were used. The seeds were put in Petri dishes with germination paper soaked in water. These Petri dishes were put in one of three styrofoam boxes with a controlled temperature, humidity, light, and sound exposure. All the sounds that the seeds were exposed to had the same frequency, loudness, and length.

Results

24 seeds of each type were used for each group. After 72 hours, the number of radish seeds germinated in music was 16, noise was 13, and silence (control) was 12. In comparison, the number of cucumber seeds germinated was 8 in music, 18 in noise, and 20 in silence (control).

Conclusions/Discussion

In conclusion, this experiment showed that only some types of seeds are positively affected by music. These findings indicate that more research is needed to figure out what type of sound has a positive effect on different types of seeds.

Summary Statement

My project is about the effect of music, noise, and silence on seeds germinating.

Help Received

I designed the project myself, I received help in understanding the data from my science mentor - Ms. Afsaneh Miller.