California Science Center

CALIFORNIA STATE SCIENCE FAIR
2001 PROJECT SUMMARY

Your Name (List all student names if multiple authors.)
Michael C. Shedd

Project Title (Limit: 120 characters. Those beyond 120 will be ignored. See pg. 9)
What Color Is Best Seen Peripherally?

Science Fair Use Only

J1532

Division
X **Junior (6-8)** _ **Senior (9-12)**

Preferred Category (See page 5 for descriptions.)
2 - Behavioral Sciences

Abstract (Include Objective, Methods, Results, Conclusion. See samples on page 14.)
Use no attachments. Only text inside these boxes will be used for category assignment or given to your judges.

I did this science experiment because my brother is almost sixteen, as well as many of his friends, and as soon as he gets his drivers license he will probably get his own car. I wanted to help him make the best choice on what color car to drive, so he would be most noticeable to other drivers. Another reason I am doing this study is my dad commutes four hours a day for work and he was thinking about buying another car. There are 40,000 deaths from auto accidents each year in United States and I didn#t want anyone, especially a loved one, to be part of this statistic. Thus the importance of what color is seen the best peripherally. By doing this science fair experiment, I discovered that the statistical analysis of the data collected in testing to see what color was best noticed peripherally shows:

-White, florescent yellow and florescent orange were seen peripherally equally best due to contrast and brightness of colors.

-Although the adults and teenagers averaged almost identically for sighting peripheral movement, adults were able to notice movement slightly before teenagers. However, the adults' ability to detect the correct color peripherally was worse than teenagers were.

Summary Statement (In one sentence, state what your project is about.)
This project was done to determine what color car is seen peripherally best.

Help Received in Doing Project (e.g. Mother helped type report; Neighbor helped wire board; Used lab equipment at university X under the supervision of Dr. Y; Participant in NSF Young Scholars Program) See Display Regulation #8 on page 4.
Brother helped with graphs. Mother helped with assisting in testing subjects and reviewed typing.