

CALIFORNIA STATE SCIENCE FAIR 2002 PROJECT SUMMARY

Name(s)

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Project Number

J1723

Project Title

Many ZzZs a Day Keeps the Counselor Away

Abstract

Objectives/Goals

Does the average amount of weeknight sleep an eighth grade student get, effect his/her academic performance in school?

Methods/Materials

- 1. Make a survey to collect data on the average amount of week night sleep and report card grades earned by 8th grade students.
- 3. From the surveys returned, record the gender, average hours of week night sleep, and report card grades earned for each student. Record the report card grades under the categories: Male and Female, Math, Science, English, History, and total GPA.
- 4. Study the data recorded to determine if the average amount of week night sleep an 8th grader gets has any effect on her and/or his earned report card grades.

Results

500 survey copies

pencils

report card data

1 calculator

Motorola Star Max 3000/180 Power PC

Claris Works and Microsoft Word Software

adult assistance to obtain report card data

Conclusions/Discussion

My science project was fun! The hypothesis I arrived at for my experiment was partially correct and partially incorrect. My hypothesis is, #My research has led me to believe that people with an average of 9 to 9.5 hours of sleep will preform better academically than people who average less or more sleep than 9 to 9.5 hours of sleep.# My experiment proved to me that 8th graders with a sleep average between 8 and 9 hours of sleep get better grades. I did not think that 8th graders with an average of 8 hours of sleep would earn the highest percentage, straight A#s. The 8 hour sleep range was also the best when it came to A and B GPA#s.

If I was to do this experiment again I would conduct the experiment with more 8th graders, and do more research on the specific age of 8th graders. One way I would gather more data is to ask teachers to fill out a section on work habits for the students in the experiment. I would possibly survey an entire high school for a better range of teenagers, not just 13 year-olds.

Summary Statement

My project is all about trying to find out how much sleep effects grades in a positive way.

Help Received

I recieved help from my principal by blacking out all the names on my survey so that their names would not reach me. My biology teacher placed me in a gook category and helped improve my project. My mother helped make my board look wonderful!