



**CALIFORNIA STATE SCIENCE FAIR  
2003 PROJECT SUMMARY**

<b>Name(s)</b> <b>Sarah A. Abelson</b>	<b>Project Number</b> <b>J0301</b>
<b>Project Title</b> <b>Memory</b>	
<b>Abstract</b> <b>Objectives/Goals</b> The reason that I wanted to do this project is that I always wondered if memory depended on your age. I thought it would be fun to do a science project on something I'm interested in. By doing this project I hoped I would figure out if memory gets worse when you get older like people say it does. <b>Methods/Materials</b> The materials I used were a timer, lots of paper, a computer, a pen, pencil, a little box, a big box, a ring, a stuffed animal cat, a stuffed animal rabbit, a baby rattle, a tissue, a cd, a book, potato chips, a flashlight, scissors, a hammer, a walkie talkie, a diaper, an ornament, tape, and a ruler. <b>Results</b> Objects are harder to remember than names. Looking at an object had the highest average. It is not possible to "look" at a name. People remember objects best by looking at the objects. People remember objects better by looking at a list of objects than listening to objects being read. Adults have better memory than kids. Younger adults(20-29) have better memory and a higher average than older adults and kids. Older kids remembered better than younger kids. I also found that people remember names better if they listen to them being read than by being shown the name on a piece of paper. Altogether I found out that people don't remember names or objects very well. The overall average was 13.38 out of 20. I had some unexpected results also. I did not realize gender made a difference until later. The females remembered better on all the tests than the males. The reason I only examined gender for adults is because there were not enough boys to determine if boys or girls under twenty did better. Capitalized names were remembered better than uncapitalized names. These results were unexpected. I capitalized some of the names and forgot to capitalize thirteen. I noticed it at the end. <b>Conclusions/Discussion</b> Adults have better memory than kids. For the two tests(looking at a list and listening to lists) people remembered names better than objects. The thing that interested me though was that people don't remember objects or names very well. I found that age is not the only thing that affects memory. Capitalization of names and whether or not the person is a female or male affects their memory. There may be other things as well.	
<b>Summary Statement</b> My project is about the effect of different variables such as age, gender, and capitalization on different types of memory.	
<b>Help Received</b> My mother helped check spelling and grammar error. My math teacher, made comments about my project. Subjects donated time (an hour a piece) by taking test. My science teacher, advised me. My sister's boyfriend taught me how to use Excel and do graphs on the computer.	