



**CALIFORNIA STATE SCIENCE FAIR  
2003 PROJECT SUMMARY**

<b>Name(s)</b> <b>Meenakshi T. Mukherjee</b>	<b>Project Number</b> <b>J0328</b>
<b>Project Title</b> <b>Do People Remember Color or Black and White Better?</b>	
<b>Abstract</b> <b>Objectives/Goals</b> I tested if people remember color or black and white (B&W) pictures better and if there would be an effect of age. In order to do this I chose five people from three age groups to test. The first age group was 2-3rd graders, the next group was 5-6th graders and the last group was adults. <b>Methods/Materials</b> 10 flash cards- 5 cards color 5 cards B&W 15 people to test- five 2-3 graders, five 5-6 graders, and five adults Step 1- Enroll person in the study Step 2- Get each person to test separately. Step 3- Take each card and show it to the person for 30 seconds. Tell them the name of the picture. Step 4- After you show them all of the cards go through them again this time giving them 30 seconds to tell you the name. Step 5- Record all of your data from the test. Step 6- Continue to do this until you have tested five 2-3 graders, five 5-6 graders, and five adults. Step 7- once done make a graph and table of your data and write your conclusion, future research. <b>Results</b> My tables show that 2-3 graders had an average of 6.2 answers correct. They had an average of 2.2 for incorrect answers in color and an average of 2.2 for answers in B&W. The 5-6 graders had an average of 8.4 for answers that were correct and an average of 0.6 for incorrect answers in color and an average of 1 for the answers that were incorrect in B&W. The adults had an average of 9 for answers that were correct overall. They had an average of 0.8 for number of answers incorrect in color and an average of 0.8 for incorrect in B&W. <b>Conclusions/Discussion</b> My studies show that 2-3 grader and adults did not remember color over B&W or B&W over color. They were the same averages. The 5-6 graders remembered color over B&W. My hypothesis was half-correct and half-wrong according to these answers. To my surprise the 2-3 graders remembered color and B&W the same and so did the adults. But the 5-6 graders did not. This is why I was half-wrong because I had said I thought that if a child was younger their hippocampus would be smaller so they would not be able to remember as well. The part that I did get correct was that people would remember color better than B&W. The 5-6 graders remembered color over B&W and I find that kind of strange because the other two age groups remembered both the same amounts.	
<b>Summary Statement</b> I looked at the effect of age on memory in color or black and white pictures.	
<b>Help Received</b> Mother helped with the board; Father helped generally	