

CALIFORNIA STATE SCIENCE FAIR 2004 PROJECT SUMMARY

Name(s) Project Number

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J0914

Project Title

What's In Your Water?

Abstract

Objectives/Goals

Our goal was to test different chemicals and find out which ones were in different kinds of water. Our objective was to find out which water was the most contaminated.

Methods/Materials

Our methods included obtaining the materials, setting up our testing space, putting on our gloves and goggles to be safe, testing samples of water, recording our results onto tables and graphs, and putting it all together on the science board. Our materials included a Freshwater Master Test Kit, labels, paper, gloves, goggles, a science board, and the water samples.

Results

Our results showed that none of the water samples (including the Carmel River, Lake El Estero, Colton Middle School drinking fountain, and tap water) had nitrates in them. Carmel River has the highest pH. Lake El Estero had the most high range pH. Lake El Estero also contained the most ammonia, because of all the wildlife waste products.

Conclusions/Discussion

We predicted that Lake El Estero would have the most ammonia and we were correct. We predicted that the school drinking fountain would have the highest pH, but we were incorrect because the Carmel River had the highest pH. We predicted that tap water would have the most high range pH, but we were incorrect because Lake El Estero had the most high range pH. Lastly, we predicted that Carmel River would have the most nitrates, but were were incorrect because none of our water samples had nitrates in them. Therefore, we concluded that tap water was the least contaminated and Lake El Estero was the most contaminated.

Summary Statement

Our project is about testing for contaminated water by obtaining water samples in Monterey and Carmel.

Help Received

Father helped with graphs; mother drove us to get water samples.