

CALIFORNIA STATE SCIENCE FAIR 2006 PROJECT SUMMARY

Name(s)

Katherine T. Carter

Project Number

J0302

Project Title

ABC, 123, Which Learning Style Is Best for Me?

Abstract

Objectives/Goals

The objective is to determine whether middle school students can learn information better if they see it first rather than hearing it first.

Methods/Materials

Tested 104 eighth-grade students. Separated them into four groups, two groups were asked to memorize a sequence of ten letters, the other two groups, a sequence of ten numbers. One of the letter sequence groups along with one of the number sequence groups were allowed to hear the sequence before seeing it, the other two groups were allowed to see the sequence before hearing it. All of the students were asked to write the sequence down by memory.

Results

The average percent of correct answers for the students with a sequence of letters which they heard before seeing was 75%. 67.3% was the average percent of correct answers for the students who saw their letter sequence before hearing it. 69.6% was the average percent for the students with a number sequence, which they heard before seeing and the students with a number sequence that was shown to them before they heard it was 56.5%.

Conclusions/Discussion

In conclusion, the experimenter#s hypothesis was proven correct in that the students who heard their sequence before seeing it scored the highest overall. The experimenter also found that students had a more difficult time memorizing the number sequences than the letter sequences. These results are very useful because they show the most effective way to teach middle school students so that we can better help future generations.

Summary Statement

To determine whether middle school students learn better by hearing or seeing information first.

Help Received

Ms. Sondreal, my Science teacher, proofread my papers and helped find subjects to be tested