



**CALIFORNIA STATE SCIENCE FAIR  
2006 PROJECT SUMMARY**

<b>Name(s)</b> Catherine A. Priamos	<b>Project Number</b> <b>J0815</b>
<b>Project Title</b> <b>Oil Spills: How to Effectively Clean Up While Maintaining Normal Plant and Animal Life</b>	
<b>Abstract</b> <b>Objectives/Goals</b> To find out which is the fastest and most effective way to clean up an oil spill while maintaining normal plant and animal life. The methods include sorbents, bioremediation and skimmers. <b>Methods/Materials</b> Using 4 aquariums with fish and water plants, I create an oil spill using used motor oil. One was a control aquarium, in another, I used oil eating microbes, yet another, I used a sorbent, and the last, I used a skimmer (turkey baster). <b>Results</b> The sorbent was the fastest and most effective. Following closely in effectiveness was bioremediation, but it took a long time. The least effective and slowest was the skimmer. <b>Conclusions/Discussion</b> For a small scale/contained oil spill, sorbents seem to be the fastest and most effective clean up method, closely followed by bioremediation.	
<b>Summary Statement</b> My project is about finding out which is the fastest and most effective way to clean up an oil spill while maintaining normal plant and animal life.	
<b>Help Received</b> Mom took pictures, bought materials and helped make graphs and insert photos. Dad lifted filled tanks, got motor oil from car, sprayed adhesive for backboard, and disposed of dead fish until I got used to it.	