



**CALIFORNIA STATE SCIENCE FAIR  
2006 PROJECT SUMMARY**

<b>Name(s)</b> <b>Heather G. Beeson</b>	<b>Project Number</b> <b>J1004</b>
<b>Project Title</b> <b>The Younger The Better</b>	
<b>Abstract</b> <b>Objectives/Goals</b> The objective of this experiment is to determine at what age cats will recover from anesthetics fastest when spayed/neutered. I hypothesize that cats will recover quicker from anesthetics when spayed/neutered younger. <b>Methods/Materials</b> The researcher tested sixty cats, twenty cats in three different age groups. The younger group was two to four months old. The middle group was four to eight months old. The older group was eight months and older. The researcher timed how long it took for the cats to recover in each of the groups. In the first stage of recovery the cats are unconscious. The second stage is a hallucinatory stage. It is identified by vocalization, twitching, and throwing of the body. In the third stage of recovery the cats have limited motor skills. The last stage of recovery the cats are awake and moving freely. The same anesthetics were used on all the cats. <b>Results</b> This experiment shows that the recovery time is shorter when cats are spayed/neutered at two to four months old. <b>Conclusions/Discussion</b> The hypothesis was correct. Some of the cats took a little longer than expected, but over all the data supported the objective. The cats that were two to four months old recovered the fastest. The middle group took approximately thirty to sixty minutes longer than the younger group. The cats more than eight months old took the longest time to recover from the anesthetics.	
<b>Summary Statement</b> This project compared the anesthetic recovery of cats in different age groups that were spayed/neutered.	
<b>Help Received</b> The Escondido Humane Society medical staff and my parents helped me with this experiment.	