



**CALIFORNIA STATE SCIENCE FAIR
2007 PROJECT SUMMARY**

Name(s) Caroline R. Glazer	Project Number J0309
Project Title The Placebo Effect	
Abstract Objectives/Goals I wanted to find out if the placebo effect worked on 4th-6th graders. I wanted to see if a piece of Botan Rice Candy that (they were told) "stimulates the cerebellum" would make people make more basketball shots. Methods/Materials I tested 18 4th-6th graders with signed permission forms. The first thing the subject did was shoot ten lay-ups. I recorded the number they made, and then explained that the Botan Rice Candy I was about to give them would "stimulate the cerebellum" and make them shoot baskets better. After they finished eating the candy, I had them shoot another ten lay-ups. I recorded the number they made, and determined by how many baskets they increased or decreased. Results 56% of the subjects' shooting performance increased. One-third (33.33%) of the subjects decreased. 11% of the subjects made the same number of baskets before and after eating the candy. The majority of people improved by one basket. Conclusions/Discussion The placebo effect partly worked. It was expected that the subjects' performance would increase a lot after eating the candy, but most people only increased by one or two baskets.	
Summary Statement My project was to test whether or not the placebo effect would affect students in 4th-6th grade.	
Help Received Dad helped edit abstract; Mom helped find parents to sign permission forms; Ms. White (my Science teacher) let us work on our projects during class time.	