CALIFORNIA STATE SCIENCE FAIR
2007 PROJECT SUMMARY

Name(s)
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Project Number
J0598

Project Title
How Does the Number of Marshmallows Burned under a Container of Water Affect the Change in the Water's Temperature?

Abstract

Objectives/Goals
My project was to determine the effect of the number of marshmallows being burned under under a container of water to the change in the water's temperature.

Methods/Materials
Different numbers of marshmallows were burned. One, two, and three marshamallows were tested. Each number of marshmallows was tested five times. The change in temperature for the water was measured in degrees Celsius using a thermometer.

Results
In this experiment, as the number of marshamllows burned under a container of water increased, the change in the water's temperature increased.When the number of marshamallows was increased from one to two to three, the change in the water's temperature increased from 3.6 to 6.6 to 9.4 degrees Celsius.

Conclusions/Discussion
My conclusion is that the more marshamllows being burned under a container of water, the greater change in the water's temperature. This is due to a reaction. The more marshamllows being burned under a container of water means there are more calories being burned. The more calories in the marshmallows means there are more chemical energy. When the marshamllow is burned, its chemical energy is converted ito heat energy. This heat is what is used to raise the temperature of the water. The more heat that is produced leads to a greater temperature change.

Summary Statement
This project investigates the relationship between the number of marshmallows burned under a container of water and the change in the water's temperature.

Help Received
Teacher loaned some materials; Parents took pictures while doing project; Teacher looked over drafts of report.