CALIFORNIA STATE SCIENCE FAIR
2008 PROJECT SUMMARY

Name(s)
Karina Ramirez

Project Number
J0124

Project Title
The Effect of Parachute Material on Parachute Speed

Abstract

Objectives/Goals
My project was to determine if the parachute's material would effect the speed of the parachute's descent. I believe that a parachute with a heavier material will fall faster than a parachute with a lighter material because of the added weight.

Methods/Materials
I made 10 parachutes of the exact same size, but different materials. I tied them to a plastic army man, and dropped them all 15 times from a 10 foot ceiling. I timed their fall to see if they fell at the same rate. Then I averaged each parachute type and divided by 10 to get the speed in feet per second.

Results
The parachute with the lightest material took longer to fall on average and the parachute with the heaviest material did fall faster on average.

Conclusions/Discussion
My conclusion is that my hypothesis was supported. The parachute with the heavier weight did fall faster than the parachute with the lighter weight. Therefore the speed of the parachute was effected by the parachute material.

Summary Statement
I tested parachutes of different materials to see if this has an effect on the speed a parachute falls.

Help Received
Mother helped with board; Teacher helped with report.