CALIFORNIA STATE SCIENCE FAIR
2014 PROJECT SUMMARY

Name(s)

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Project Number

34214

Project Title

At What Grade Level Can Children Differentiate between Candy and Non-Candy Items?

Abstract

Objectives/Goals

The objective of my project was to determine at what grade level can children distinguish between candy and non-candy items.

Methods/Materials

To test my project, I tested 10 girls and 10 boys, in grade levels Preschool through eighth grade (ages 2 - 14). To test my subjects, I glued four candy items and four non-candy items to a piece of poster board. I numbered the items 1 - 8, and asked each test subject if they thought the item is candy or not candy.

Results

I had hypothesized that the preschool aged subjects would have an accuracy rate of 35%. My results exceeded my hypothesis because the preschoolers had a 52% accuracy rate. Another surprising result was that fifth grade did the best with an accuracy rate of 86%. In addition, the item most commonly identified as candy was a Tums.

Conclusions/Discussion

In conclusion, I determined that it is extremely important to keep all medicines and harmful products out of the reach of ALL children because a large majority of my test subjects could not correctly differentiate between what was candy and what was not.

Summary Statement

My project was about determining whether or not children can tell the difference between what is candy and what is not candy.

Help Received

Dad helped me type and make graphs