



**CALIFORNIA STATE SCIENCE FAIR
2015 PROJECT SUMMARY**

Name(s) Alessio C. Bernardi	Project Number J2202
Project Title Homing Behavior in Monkeyface Prickleback, <i>Cebidichthys violaceus</i>	
Abstract Objectives/Goals My main question was to see if Monkeyface pricklebacks could OhomeO by using their own chemical trail. I setup a choice experiment with clean and OscentedO water in a tank. I found that the fish much more often went to the OScentedO water than the OunscentedO water. Methods/Materials Eighteen fish were collected in the intertidal in Pacific Grove, and brought back to the lab. An aquarium was setup with three compartments, one contained the initial fish and two had clean and "scented" water where the fish could swim. Each test lasted ten minutes. Results Six fish did not move and were not used in the analysis. Two fish swam to the unscented compartment, ten fish swam to the scented compartment. A Chi square test showed that this results was statistically significant. Conclusions/Discussion My experiment shows that fish seem to be more attracted by water with a home smell, than unscented water. This may explain the homing behavior that has been described before in this species.	
Summary Statement I studied homing behavior in Monkeyface prickleback fishes, with a choice experiment where fish would choose between clean or scented (home) water.	
Help Received Used lab equipment at the University of California Santa Cruz with my Dad.	