

CALIFORNIA STATE SCIENCE FAIR 2017 PROJECT SUMMARY

Name(s)

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Project Number

J0416

Project Title

The Bias between Real and Powdered Food

Objectives/Goals

Abstract

in my project, I wanted to test if there was a bias between real and powdered food because of how food is advertised and viewed in the media and people's view's on food that were instilled at an early age. I also wanted see if this bias could be changed.

Methods/Materials

Materials: Hungry Jack powdered mashed potatoes, potatoes, water, salt, pepper, PBfit powdered peanut butter, Skippy peanut butter, 2% milk, and 2% powdered milk

Method:Subjects were given samples of foods then asked to answer surveys which were tabulated and compared. Subjects were then given nutritional information about their food.

Results

Most of my subjects grew up with biases against powdered food from either their family influences or from media and advertising opinions. Whole food was thought to be the better option but after the test subjects tasted the powered foods, they were surprised to learn that the food not only tasted as good but was nutritionally similar.

Conclusions/Discussion

The bias against powdered food is real. People who believed that powdered food was bad or tasteless learned that it did taste good, was healthy, had a long shelf life and portable. Many actually changed their minds about the way they perceived powdered food and were willing to try other powdered products with less prejudice than before.

Summary Statement

The preconceived bias about powdered food because of media advertising and family views is still strong but changeable when people are given the opportunity to judge for themselves.

Help Received

None. All food was prepared and distributed by me. I designed and tabulated the survey results myself.