

Madison Thompson

*The Effects of Petroleum Hydrocarbon Contamination on the Hatching of Artemia salina*

My project is about oil spills and their effect on marine life. The purpose of my project was to see the effects of Petroleum Hydrocarbon on the hatching of brine shrimp and their life cycle, and the oil's effect on the normality of the hatched shrimp (seeing if the shrimp were normal or abnormal after they had hatched). My first hypothesis is the greater the oil concentration the less the hatched Brine Shrimp overall. My second hypothesis is with the greater the amount of oil, the greater the amount of abnormal hatched shrimp. In order to complete my experiment I performed 3 tests. In each of the 3 tests I had 4 petri dishes, Dish A, Dish B, Dish C, and Control. I used different concentrations of oil in each of the dishes all except the controls, which I did not put any oil into. In my results, I found out that both of my hypotheses were proven correct. With the greater concentration of oil I saw a lesser amount of hatched shrimp. Also, with the greater concentration of oil I saw a greater amount of deformed shrimp out of the total hatched. Through this experiment I concluded that in order to save the life cycles of this type of marine life, the oil concentration that is spilled, in the occurrence of an oil spill, needs to somehow be lessened. This is a very important issue in today's marine life.