

2008 TAIWAN INTERNATIONAL SCIENCE FAIR

CATEGORY : Medicine and Health

PROJECT : Crying Babies

AWARDS : Medicine and Health Second Award

SCHOOL : Oranje Meisieskool School

FINALISTS : Lurissa Roos

COUNTRY : South Africa

ABSTRACT OF EXHIBIT
TAIWAN INTERNATIONAL SCIENCE FAIR

CATEGORY: MEDICINE AND HEALTH

TITLE: CRYING BABIES

NAME: LURISSA ROOS

COUNTRY: REPUBLIC OF SOUTH-AFRICA

a. PURPOSE:

Do babies between 0 – 3 months have certain sound reflexes that can be interpreted as a language? Can parents be helped to understand their newborn babies better? Are parents aware of infantile speech patterns and language acquisition in babies?

b. PROCEDURES:

70 Babies of different cultures were tested to determine if the 5 crying-sounds can be an indication of the baby's need. Questionnaires and information were given out at hospitals and clinics. Doctors, paediatricians, sisters and parents were involved in my project. DVD's were made to show and explain the different sounds.

c. DATA:

I obtained my data from the questionnaires, interviews with parents, doctors, paediatricians and the staff working in the labour-wards. 70 Babies were tested (68 responded) and I listened to every crying-sound to make sure that there are only 5 different sounds. I made a DVD from all the sounds of the babies that I've tested. Data were also gathered from science.

d. CONCLUSIONS:

According to all the research and sources, I can positively say that a person can identify the reason why babies (0-3 months) are crying. Babies of any culture, have universal sounds that indicate their needs. The different sounds are: *EH* – upper gas, *EAIRH* – lower gas, *HEH* – discomfort, *OWH* –tired, *NEH* – hungry.

評語

- 1) This is a beautiful pieces of work, highly original with consistent results.
- 2) The data (crying sound) should be supported by photographs and analysis with computers.