



## Colorado Science and Engineering Fair

## 2025 Individual Project Abstract Form

**Please print 2 copies of the completed form. Sign both copies, keep 1 for your notebook and submit 1 copy to your Regional Fair Director with your other paperwork.**

Title of Project: Holy Buckets

Finalist's Name: Jessa Wilson

School and City: Wiggins Middle School

Sponsor's Name: Regan Wilson

Category: Animal Sciences

Division: Junior (grades 6 - 8)

Abstract (250 words or less):

The purpose of Holy Buckets was to determine which bucket color horses most prefer. I hypothesized that they would prefer the blue bucket because it is familiar to them and they will recognize it.

First, I went to Dr. Wade Shoemaker DVM to get my project approved and to learn more about equine vision. This project involved testing six different American Quarter Horses to determine what color bucket would be the most popular out of blue, yellow, pink, red, teal, and purple. The six buckets filled with grain were tied on an arena fence ten feet apart. Each horse was walked past the buckets and then taken to the middle of the arena and let loose. The bucket that the horses went to first was recorded. Twelve trials for each horse were performed for a total of seventy-two trials. The buckets were moved down the fence each time to ensure a scientific result.

The data collected did not support my hypothesis because the blue bucket was not the most preferred. The yellow bucket was the most preferred color at 20.8% and blue and teal tied as the second most preferred color at 19.4%. The third place colors were red and pink with 13.9%. The least preferred color was purple with 12.9%.

These findings lead me to believe that horse owners should be using yellow and blue colored buckets for feed and water as horses are most drawn to those colors.

*I hereby certify that the above statements are correct and the information provided in the Abstract is the result of one year's research. I also attest that the above properly reflects my own work.*

Finalist's Signature:

Date:

In addition, all students must complete the ISEF Student Checklist (1A), Research Plan, Approval Form (1B), and Checklist for Adult Sponsor (1), and any other ISEF forms required for this type of project. See the International Rules and Guidelines for form requirements. Return COPIES of all of these forms to your Regional Fair Director with you Finalist Verification/Permission Form. **A signed copy of this form must be included in your notebook.**