

Grace Farrell
Bare Your Teeth!

For my science experiment, I went once around Wash Park and once around Costco smiling, then once around neutral, to see how many people would smile back at me. My hypothesis stated that if I smile at multiple people, then they will smile back at me because when you are smiled at, your brain takes in the smile and calls it a reward. I set this experiment up by making a chart and taking a clipboard to Wash Park and going once around neutral and the second time smiling. I did the same for Costco. I found that when I smiled at the people in Wash Park or Costco, most of them smiled back. When I was at Wash Park, six people smiled while 23 did not when I was neutral. When I smiled in Wash Park, 23 smiled while three did not. At Costco, three people smiled while 23 did not when I was neutral. When I was smiling, 17 smiled while nine did not. My hypothesis was proven correct because when I smiled, the people smiled at, had a chemical reaction in their brain, meaning serotonin and other such chemicals, took in the smile, called it a reward, and made them want to smile back. My results are important because the simple act of smiling at someone has the power to make them feel happy and, or improve their mood. If people smiled more, this world could become a happier and more peaceful place.