Student
Corynn Evans
San Bernardino CA

Awards
Gold Medal at RIMS Inland Science and Engineering Fair
Top Project (Sweepstakes Award) at RIMS Inland Science and Engineering Fair
2nd Place 4th Grade Project
2nd Place Overall

Overview
Corynn Evans, from San Bernardino, California is a very active student who excels in viola and acts as a “Conflict Manager” at her school. She enjoys many subjects in school and as a 4th grader, Corynn, was eligible to do her first science fair project this year. Stacey Evans, her mother, started the process by exploring the Internet to find websites that would provide her daughter with a project idea but which would also be able to guide them both through the science fair process. She quickly discovered that Science Buddies had exactly what she was looking for. Corynn started by using the Topic Selection Wizard (TSW) to find an idea for a project that would hold her interest.

An avid animal lover Corynn knew she had found the project for her when the TSW survey guided her to “Paw Preference in Pets”. Because of her love of dogs and their abundance in her neighborhood she quickly set to work adapting the Science Buddies Project Idea around her chosen animal. She found it challenging at first to come up with a hypothesis but came to realize, after reading over the Science Buddies Project Guide, that right or wrong her experiment would be a success and earn her a good grade if she followed all the steps and kept an accurate journal of her work.

The Science Buddies Project Guide proved to be useful throughout the entire process. Both Corynn and Stacey noted how easy it was to follow and how wonderful it was that everything was outlined and specific. They said, “anytime we had a question, such as ‘how many subjects do we need?’ Science Buddies had a link that directed us to the answer.” Corynn went on to say that she
found her chosen project very easy to follow and she was able to understand all of the steps and directions outlined in the Project Idea.

During the experiment phase of the project, Corynn quickly learned that a number of factors have to be considered when testing animals. She noticed that age, the degree to which they are trained, and their individual personalities play a major role in how they performed during the tests. She included these observations in her laboratory notebook and her final report which earned her good marks from the judges. She also made an extra effort to make her display board stand out and put in extra time making sure that it was thorough and eye catching but still easy to read and navigate. She made sure to include pictures of her experiment in action so the judges could see how she tested each animal.

In the end her dedication and effort earned her a number of awards. Corynn took home the 2nd place award for the fourth grade as well as the 2nd place award overall for her school fair. Her success at her school fair earned her a place at the RIMS Inland Science and Engineering Fair where she won a gold medal and a top project sweepstakes award. Corynn says she looks forward to her next science fair and is already discussing environmental science projects with her father who has a background in water quality and testing.