

The Effects of Caffeine on Zebrafish

Alyssa C. York

Topics in Biology

Professor: Josh Cannon

Summer Ventures in Science and Mathematics

The University of North Carolina at Charlotte

Abstract

Caffeine is in many different food and drink products sold around the world. The majority of the world consumes some amount of caffeine every day. Caffeine is used for its ability to energize people. Even though it is found in so many different food and drink items, caffeine is still considered an addictive drug. It meets two out of the three requirements set to determine if a substance is addictive. The question posed in this paper is what are the effects of caffeine on humans? By testing on Zebrafish, the behavioral changes shown by the fish can be interpreted for humans. The experiment tests how larger doses of caffeine really impact behavior and how much can be lethal. The overall results show that too much caffeine can be harmful and not helpful at all.