Project Title: Halibut Population
Abstract: For our project we studied the halibut population in LA Harbor over the past three years. We wanted to see if the halibut numbers have been increasing or decreasing. We did some research about the halibut and found that they like to live in dark sandy places and can grow to be about 60 pounds. We did an otter trawl while on the Vantuna. We compared our data to data from the previous two years. We learned that the population of halibut in LA Harbor has gone down. We think that people might be fishing and catching more halibut to eat.

Project Title: White Croaker and DDT
Abstract: Our project researched DDT pollution in white croaker and tested to see if the numbers are increasing or decreasing. Our research found that the government didn't know that DDT was dangerous and it was being used often. Later the DDT got carried into the ocean where is got into the white croaker. By doing an otter trawl and comparing it to otter trawls in previous years, we found that the numbers of white croaker are increasing. People need to become aware to the health dangers from eating this fish.

Project Title: Plankton and the Food Chain
Abstract: For our project we wanted to see if there was a relationship between the amount of plankton and the amount of fish in LA Harbor. We did some research and found that plankton is a big source of food for the fish. We thought that if we found a lot of plankton, we would also find a lot of fish. By doing a vertical tow and looking at the water under a microscope, we saw that there was a lot of plankton in LA Harbor. The otter trawl in the harbor brought in lots of fish. We determined that there is a relationship between the plankton amounts and fish numbers. Also we learned that plankton is an important part of the food chain.