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Testing for a gravity bias in a Harbor seal (*Phoca vitulina)* and a California sea lion (*Zalophus californianus)*

Hood defines a gravity bias as an effect that happens when, "preschool children expect a falling object to travel in a straight line even when there are clear physical mechanisms that deviate the object's path" (as cited by Hood, Houser, Anderson, & Santos, 2001, p. 35). The gravity bias has been witnessed in non-human primates such as *Pan Troglodytes* (Tomonaga, Imura, Mizuno, & Tanaka, 2007), and *Macaca Mulatta* (Southgate & Gomez, 2006), also *Canis Lupus Familiaris* (Osthaus, Slater, & Lea, 2003) The study currently being conducted, focuses on the responses of two marine mammals. This study is conducting testing on *Zalophus califonianus* and *Phoca vitulina*, or the California sea lion and the harbor seal respectively; either of which has not been studied on their knowledge of gravity, or if they would understand a test such as the opaque tube task. The opaque tubes task will determine whether Calypso and Bunker can fight or succumb to the effects of a gravity bias. Each subject's performance and results, in relation to comparative cognition, will be discussed at the time of this presentation.