

Sarah's Advice | High School Researcher | Pursuing Bachelors in Ecology & Evolutionary Biology

I joined the lab going into my senior year of high school as part of a research program at my school. Coming into the lab, my research partner and I were not quite sure what to expect; we found a welcoming community, a mentor who is passionate about seeing her students succeed, and a massive influx of knowledge surrounding neuroscience and lab procedures. Dr. Krishnan has strict but manageable expectations of students in the lab and is more than willing to help students explore personal interests. She creates an environment of constant discussion and collaboration which encourages creativity and the expansion of knowledge; she wants every student in the lab to know exactly what the project is that they are working on and why it is important.

Having this experience gave me true insight into the realities of a scientific career, a background in neuroscience and lab work, and an understanding of professional responsibility that will prove invaluable as I continue my studies. The most important sentiment to keep in mind in order to succeed in this lab is to stay engaged, stay curious, and stay persistent. Many of the tasks at the lab can become tedious and repetitive, but staying persistent and keeping in mind insights that each piece of data offers will lead to a significant contribution to the scientific community.