



# Weekends of Tutelage: A Learning Experience

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Biochemistry

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“Saturdays are  
for...studying?”

## Introduction

The Saturday Program is a place where high school students come on Saturday mornings for tutoring. Volunteers, such as myself, come from all over the University campus to aid the students in preparing for their futures. The students come and can get help for any subject; there is usually a tutor available that has a specialty in their area of need.

## Site Information:

### Saturday Program

Office of Multi-ethnic Student Education(OMSE), University of Maryland, College Park

Dr. Christopher Lester

The site mission: To help high school students increase their proficiency in mathematics and reading.

The goal is for the students to use what they learn in this program to perform better on future standardized tests( in school assessments, SAT, ACT, etc.)



## Impact:

- The site made me appreciate the value of giving back to other students.
- The students having fun while learning will ultimately motivate them to continue their education.

## Activities:

- Review of Weekly Vocabulary: Students were asked to memorize and understand set vocab words each week.
- Math Lesson: Students learn new mathematical skills and are then allowed to practice themselves. Tutors usually assist students as they complete packets for practice.
- Homework help: Students bring work and complete it during the end of each session. Tutors are available on standby to help.

## Discussion:

This program made me reflect on how each person is really different when it comes to learning. Coming into the program I expected it to be a cake-walk, so to speak; I felt I knew the high school material enough that I could reteach the students. However, this program reinforced the notion of knowing versus understanding a subject. Many times I had to think of ways to effectively explain concepts; being able to explain and help the students understand tested my own understanding of the material as well.

## Future Work:

- I will continue to support this program for the rest of my time at The University of Maryland.
- I will tell others about this program and tell them about the value in instills in high school students and how we can be role models for them
- I plan on getting even more involved in promoting supplementary education programs such as these.

## Issues Confronting Site:

The students came every Saturday during the school year for about 4 hours. Our job as tutors was to keep the experience fun and engaging but also promote academic advancement. A fine balance had to be made so the students would keep on coming back.



## Acknowledgments:

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