As a child I recall learning about different species local to Texas while my grandfather called off the scientific names of the animals in his backyard from our perch on his porch. It wasn’t until seven years later that I realized how much science had become a part of my personality in high school, and I began my journey to become a scientist like him. It has long been my ambition to become a science teacher to help others come to understand the world around them in a way that encourages learning and a preservation/conservation attitude toward our environment.

 I began my informal work with children as a camp counselor at the Houston Museum of Natural History in 2012 and have continued annually every year since then. The position allowed me to be in a leadership role that directed how curriculum was taught, the activities that were utilized during the lessons, and the evaluation of children’s progress. As I developed and taught biological curriculum, I developed my teaching skills daily. Despite the material being difficult to explain, I find science both challenging and rewarding. Furthermore, although the position was my first teaching position, I was given a recognition award for my efforts to make the environment more hands-on and approachable for all ages, something that I treasure to this day as recognition of my teaching abilities when faced with something I love. During this position, I learned that middle school-aged children often need support that translates into character-building and an understanding of their learning process. As a teacher, I intend to communicate such an understanding in my classroom by supporting individual student’s needs. Therefore, I plan to work carefully with my students.

 Despite not initially planning to enter the education field and beginning as a strictly science major, I have come to appreciate the “A-ha!” moments that occur in science classrooms, and I intend to work toward my education degree in a way that encourages others to love science as much as I do.

Too long
Didn’t list specific age group

Didn’t qualify the students’ characteristics

No suggestions on how to effectively teach