

September 2020



## SARAH

### Gains in the Education of Mathematics and Science [GEMS]

I work in the Dept. of Anesthesiology as a Professional Research Assistant at the University of Colorado.

## WORDS OF ADVICE

Why are you still contemplating? In all seriousness, GEMS is one of the best summer activities out there! It is not like school at all—it is a playground with STEM.

## BEST THINGS ABOUT THE PROGRAM

I loved participating in GEMS as a near-peer mentor because I got to see STEM bring so much excitement to the students we taught. I also enjoyed the creative process of developing engaging and hands-on curriculum activities.

## HOW PARTICIPATING IN AEOP INSPIRED YOU TO ADVANCE IN STEM

I have always been interested in science, but there is nothing like sharing the spark of excitement for discovery and learning with a young person. I drew on my experience with AEOP to develop curriculum for a similar program in the Denver area called Young Hands in Science. I especially love helping increase diversity in science by targeting schools that may not have the resources for hands-on activities. We bring it to them!

## IF YOU COULD MEET ONE PERSON LIVING OR DEAD, WHO WOULD YOU CHOOSE? WHY?

I would like to meet Marie Curie, whose dedication and tenacity inspires me. She made incredible strides in the STEM field, and I would love to ask her what drove her to persevere through setbacks.

## WHAT ARE YOUR FUTURE HOPES AND DREAMS?

I plan to receive my master's degree in Bioscience and Biotechnology from UC Denver and work in research and development in neuroscience.