

What did you do at service each week?

“I would work with different groups of high school students each week, all of whom were English language learners. We would usually work through what they were doing in class, and provide assistance when necessary or help to facilitate.”

“Every week, I would tutor a first grader for 45 minutes, and then host a trivia night.”

“I communicated with parents to understand how to best help their child that week. I then prepared some problems to go over for the topic and met with two students to go over these topics. I primarily focused on math.”

What is your biggest takeaway?

“How important it is for these kids to feel valued and respected in their environment.”

“The virtual learning experience is not as easy as it seems, and more credit should be given to educators, especially those during the pandemic and the dramatic switch to online learning.”

“It is important to understand the community you serve as it gives you a better perspective and ability to do better.”

“How to motivate someone even when they don't feel like doing anything. This has helped me motivate myself as well.”

What was your favorite part of service?

“Working with a 2nd grader, she was so curious and just wanted to know about anything I could tell her.”

“My favorite part was chatting and laughing with the students.”

“I was told by a student's parents that they really looked forward to meeting with me and that they could already see a difference after a couple of weeks. Feeling like I actually made an impact on a student's life was really special.”

“My favorite part was when my tutee would say ‘ohh I get it now’ whenever a concept finally clicked.”

What is something that you learned from the students that you worked with?

“How imaginative and creative they are.”

“I learned that motivation is closely tied to a student's confidence in the subject they are working on.”

“I learned that it's important to make sure that your tutee is in the right state to learn, both mentally and physically. If not, it's okay to take a break that day instead of just forcing the knowledge on them.”

“It’s always so important to learn as you go and to keep an open mind. I feel like the students I worked with probably taught me almost as much as I taught them”