

Final Reflection on My 2021 Summer Enrichment Experience at the University of Florida, Gainesville

By Jayla Ware

My time spent during the University of Florida Climate Change Resiliency Program was full of enriching experiences and “hands-on” learning. The program was split into a morning schedule and an afternoon schedule, with at home activities to be done after class. The morning schedule consisted of presentations by the professors, as well as guest speakers. These presentation topics included “Intro to Climate Change”, “Saving our Shorelines”, “The Earth Doctors”, and “Managing Aquatic Invasive Species”.

Aside from the presentations, we completed a variety of interactive activities in breakout rooms. We completed group activities that were non academic, which allowed us the chance to get to know each other in a smaller setting. The work was not extremely challenging but quite engaging. It made me question “real-world” scenarios around me. And, how I interact with these issues surrounding climate change.

As far as learning at CCHS, this was a little different as the labs related to my real life, instead of a traditional course curriculum. I learned ways to improve my habits in relation to climate change. I learned different ways that cities around the world are adapting to rising sea levels, and figuring out ways to prevent further damage. I enjoyed the kindness of the professors and facilitators, as well as the guests.

My overall favorite aspect of the program was how organized it was. It was evident that everyone apart from planning the program took time to plan every detail of the schedule. Every activity was planned in a timely manner, which reduced stress when completing the activities. I believe I gained knowledge from this program that will last me a lifetime.