Achieve3000®

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Helping Students Rise

Before Reading Poll

There are many ways to learn something, including in a classroom or on the job. What do you think?

The best way to learn about something is by doing it.

Agree

Disagree

Explain why you voted the way you did.

Article

ROCKVILLE, Maryland (Achieve3000, July 27, 2018). The new school year started in September 2017. Aelina Pogosian, age 16, couldn't wait to tell her school friends about the most interesting part of her summer vacation. That would be her Summer R.I.S.E. internship. As an intern, Aelina worked for three weeks in the biology lab at Montgomery College in Maryland.

Aelina's internship was part of the Summer R.I.S.E. (Real Interesting Summer Experience) program. Groups in Montgomery County, Maryland, provide high school students with summer internships. The program launched in the summer of 2017. More than 140 workplaces stepped up and offered internships. There were opportunities at construction companies, police stations, marketing firms, fire stations, and more. The program was offered again in July 2018. And it's set to run in the summer of 2019.

Credit for photo and all related images: © 2018 Jupiterimages Corporation

Students in Summer R.I.S.E. have the opportunity to gain work experience in different careers, like working in a biology lab.

Summer R.I.S.E. was developed through a partnership. Government officials, Montgomery County Public Schools, and a group called WorkSource Montgomery worked together. WorkSource Montgomery helps prepare students for their internships. Students receive training on workplace behavior. Partner groups provide students with other things they might need. These include bus passes and workplace clothing. At the end of the internship, each student receives $300.

More than 400 students took part in Summer R.I.S.E. in its first year. Aelina said it was a valuable experience. She got to spend time in a lab. She also got some experience with animal husbandry. She worked with the lab's snakes and tortoises.

"A lot of the materials and machinery we used [in Summer R.I.S.E. are] not [available] at most high schools, [and it's] really important for me to learn how to use these things," Aelina said. "I got to learn a lot at the same time I was able to have a lot of fun. And I met some new people."

Among those new people was Jennifer Sengbusch. Sengbusch works at Montgomery College. She worked closely with Aelina in the lab.

"At first…I had to go over safety rules with her," Sengbusch said. "Then we progressed into doing more [difficult] things."

Sengbusch was pleased to find that Aelina was interested in the work. She also appreciated that Aelina was always on time.

Letting employers know that today's high school students are ready and willing to learn is a major benefit of Summer R.I.S.E. But it's not the only one.

Will Jawando started Summer R.I.S.E. He says it has two main goals. "The first goal is to expose our students to career opportunities early on so they can inform their education or training after high school," he said.

The second goal of Summer R.I.S.E. is helping the Maryland economy. The internships make students aware of opportunities in Montgomery County.

"There are 30,000 middle-skill-level jobs here in Montgomery County that are not filled," Jawando explained. "So how do we also expose [students] to [the fact] that there are jobs here in the county that they could be doing in a year or two that pay well and are on career [tracks]?" If the students go on to get those jobs, Jawando explained, it benefits both the students and the region. They become better citizens and taxpayers.

Sengbusch says Summer R.I.S.E. gave her a chance to work with high school students. Some of these same students may soon go to Montgomery College. She found them curious and eager to learn. She observed that some high school students were even more interested in learning than the college students.

"The high school students really ask a lot of great questions," Sengbusch said.

Voice of America contributed to this story.

Dictionary

animal husbandry *(noun)*   the science of breeding and caring for farm animals

economy *(noun)*   how money is made and used in a city, state, or country

expose *(verb)*   to make known

internship *(noun)*   work that people do to get on-the-job training

marketing *(noun)*   the presenting of materials in such a way that people will want to buy them
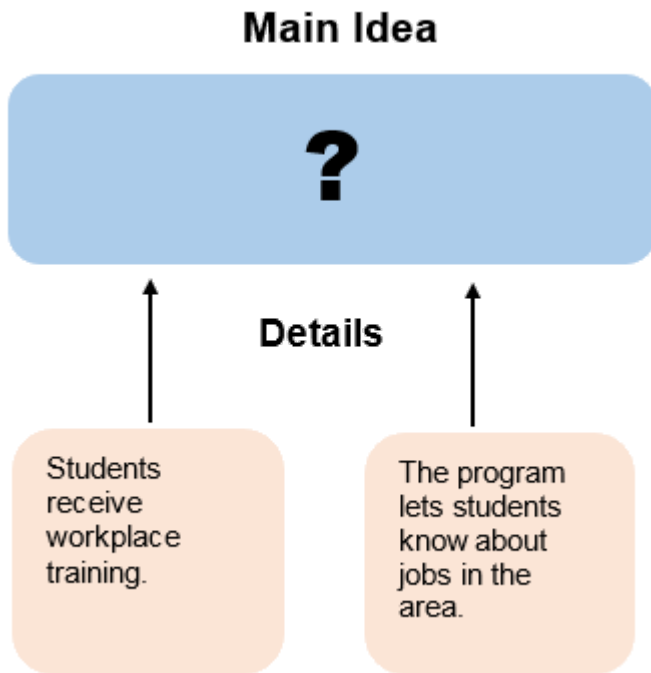
Activity

PART 1

Question 1

Main Idea

 Based on the Article, which best replaces the question mark in the diagram above?

There is a large rectangle with a question mark in it. Above the rectangle, it says "Main Idea of the Article." Under the rectangle, there are two smaller boxes with arrows pointing up to the rectangle. Each small box includes a detail from the Article. The box on the left says "Students receive workplace training." The box on the right says "The program lets students know about jobs in the area."

(A) The Summer R.I.S.E. program offers students who take part training on workplace behavior.

(B) The Summer R.I.S.E. program helps prepare students for careers they might seek nearby after high school.

(C) Each student who takes part in Summer R.I.S.E. is given a bus pass and workplace clothing.

(D) Each student who takes part in Summer R.I.S.E. receives $300 at the end of the internship period.

Question 2

 According to the Article, what is one benefit of the Summer R.I.S.E. program?

(A) Students who take part may return to Montgomery County after leaving for many years.

(B) Students who take part will not need any help paying to go to Montgomery College.

(C) Students who take part may one day become better citizens of Montgomery County.

(D) Students who take part are likely to pass along their workplace clothing to others.

Question 3

If a career opportunity is *exposed* to students, it is **not** _____.

(A) Explored with them

(B) Hidden from them

(C) Discussed with them

(D) Shown to them

Question 4

Which of these is an opinion?

(A) Summer R.I.S.E. attracted more than 140 workplaces to offer student internships in the summer of 2017.

(B) Summer R.I.S.E. is the best way to encourage high school students to plan for the future at a young age.

(C) Students in the Summer R.I.S.E. program receive $300 at the end of their internships.

(D) More than 400 students took part in the Summer R.I.S.E. program in its first year.

Question 5

The reader can tell from the Article that _____.

(A) Will Jawando started Summer R.I.S.E. with the main goal of becoming a government leader in Montgomery County, Maryland.

(B) Jennifer Sengbusch has encouraged Aelina Pogosian to go to a college other than Montgomery College.

(C) Science is probably one of Aelina Pogosian's favorite subjects at her high school in Montgomery County, Maryland.

(D) Jennifer Sengbusch was concerned that Aelina Pogosian didn't understand the lab safety rules after her three-week internship.

Question 6

The Article states:

> **If the students go on to get those jobs, Jawando explained, it *benefits* both the students and the region. They become better citizens and taxpayers.**

Which is the closest **synonym** for the word *benefits*, as it is used above?

(A) Persuades

(B) Celebrates

(C) Bewilders

(D) Aids

Question 7

Which quote from the Article best supports the idea that Aelina Pogosian felt her Summer R.I.S.E. internship was a valuable experience?

(A) Summer R.I.S.E. was developed through a partnership. Government officials, Montgomery County Public Schools, and a group called WorkSource Montgomery worked together.

(B) "The first goal is to expose our students to career opportunities early on so they can inform their education or training after high school," he said.

(C) The program launched in the summer of 2017. More than 140 workplaces stepped up and offered internships.

(D) "A lot of the materials and machinery we used [in Summer R.I.S.E. are] not [available] at most high schools, [and it's] really important for me to learn how to use these things," Aelina said.

Question 8

Based on the Article, the reader can predict that _____.

(A) As the program grows, more businesses will step up to partner with Summer R.I.S.E. and offer summer internships.

(B) In 2019, students in the Summer R.I.S.E. program will receive $500 instead of $300 at the end of their internships.

(C) Summer R.I.S.E. will no longer include science internships in its summer offerings since it's hard for students to learn lab safety rules.

(D) The focus of Summer R.I.S.E. will shift to providing internships to college students instead of high school students.

After Reading Poll

Now that you have read the article, indicate whether you agree or disagree with this statement.

The best way to learn about something is by doing it.

Agree

Disagree

Explain why you voted the way you did. Then read and respond to what others have to say.

Sorry, comments are not available at this time. Please try again later.

After Reading Poll

Thought Question

Describe Summer R.I.S.E., including the program's goals and how it works. Then, explain if you think a program like this would be a good idea for schools where you live. Explain why or why not. Include facts and details from the Article, as well as your own ideas, in your answer.
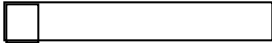
Type your answer in the text box below.

Poll Results

OPINION STATEMENT: **The best way to learn about something is by doing it.**

BEFORE READING	AFTER READING
HOW YOU VOTED	
Agree	Agree
Disagree	Disagree
WORLDWIDE RESULTS	
Agree **89%**	Agree **92%**
Disagree **11%**	Disagree **8%**

5% changed their opinion after reading the article.

Math

PART 1

Suppose Deshawna, a high school student, spent eight hours working in a biology lab. On Monday, she spent 1/4 of her time working with snakes and 2/3 of her time working with tortoises. How much time did she spend working with things other than snakes and tortoises on that day?

(A) 5 hours and 40 minutes

(B) 20 minutes

(C) 7 hours and 20 minutes

(D) 40 minutes

Stretch Article

ROCKVILLE, Maryland (Achieve3000, July 27, 2018). When the new school year started in September 2017, 16-year-old Aelina Pogosian couldn't wait to tell her school friends about the most interesting part of her summer vacation. That would be her Summer R.I.S.E. internship. As an intern, Aelina worked for three weeks in the biology lab at Montgomery College in Maryland.

For the Summer R.I.S.E. (Real Interesting Summer Experience) program, organizations in Montgomery County, Maryland, provide high school students with summer internships. The program launched in the summer of 2017. More than 140 businesses, government agencies, and nonprofits stepped up and offered to host the students for the internships. There were opportunities at construction companies, police stations, marketing firms, fire stations, and more. The program was offered again in July 2018. And it's set to run in the summer of 2019.

Credit for photo and all related images: © 2018 Jupiterimages Corporation

Students in Summer R.I.S.E. have the opportunity to gain work experience in different careers, like working in a biology lab.

Summer R.I.S.E. was developed through a partnership. Government officials, Montgomery County Public Schools, and a job training organization called WorkSource Montgomery all worked together. WorkSource Montgomery helps prepare students for their work assignments. Students also receive training on workplace behavior and communication. Partner organizations provide students with other necessities. These include bus passes and workplace clothing. At the end of the internship period, each student receives a $300 stipend.

More than 400 students from all of Montgomery County's 25 high schools took part in Summer R.I.S.E. in its first year. Aelina said it was a valuable experience. She got to spend time in a lab. She also got some experience with animal husbandry. She worked with the lab's snakes and tortoises.

"A lot of the materials and machinery we used [in Summer R.I.S.E. are] not [available] at most high schools, [and it's] really important for me to learn how to use these things," Aelina said. "I got to learn a lot at the same time I was able to have a lot of fun. And I met some new people."

Among those new people was Jennifer Sengbusch. Sengbusch works at Montgomery College. She worked closely with Aelina in the lab.
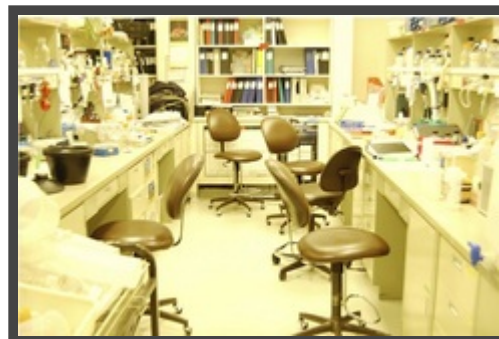
"At first…I had to go over safety rules with her to avoid any injury to herself," Sengbusch said. "We also went through working with chemicals [and] making solutions. Then we progressed into doing more [difficult] things."

Sengbusch was pleased to find that Aelina was engaged. She also appreciated that Aelina was always on time.

Letting employers know that today's high school students are ready and willing to learn is a major benefit of Summer R.I.S.E. But it's not the only one.

Will Jawando founded Summer R.I.S.E. He says it has two main goals. "The first goal is to expose our students to career opportunities early on so they can inform their education or training after high school," he said.

"It is really important to make sure that we're providing for our future generation," Craig Rice said. He's a Montgomery County councilman who helped secure funding for Summer R.I.S.E. "It's really something that if we're going to be serious about being globally competitive [and] providing a number of different options for our children, we've got to make sure that we put our money where our mouth is."

The second goal of Summer R.I.S.E. is boosting the local economy. The internships make students aware of opportunities in Montgomery County.

"There are 30,000 middle-skill-level jobs here in Montgomery County that are not filled," Jawando explained. "So how do we also expose [students] to [the fact] that there are jobs here in the county that they could be doing in a year or two that pay well and are on career [tracks]? So [the program] not only benefits the students, but hopefully [also] benefits the county and the region. If they stay here, they become productive [as] citizens and as taxpayers."

Sengbusch says Summer R.I.S.E. gave her a chance to work with high school students. Some of these same students may soon be applying to Montgomery College. She found them curious and eager to learn. She observed that some high school students were even more interested in learning than the college students.

"The high school students really ask a lot of great questions," Sengbusch said.

Voice of America contributed to this story.

Dictionary

animal husbandry *(noun)*   the science of breeding and caring for farm animals

internship *(noun)*   work that people do to get on-the-job training

marketing *(noun)*   the presenting of goods or services in such a way that people will want to purchase them, typically involving promoting and advertising

organization *(noun)*   people who work together as a group to do something

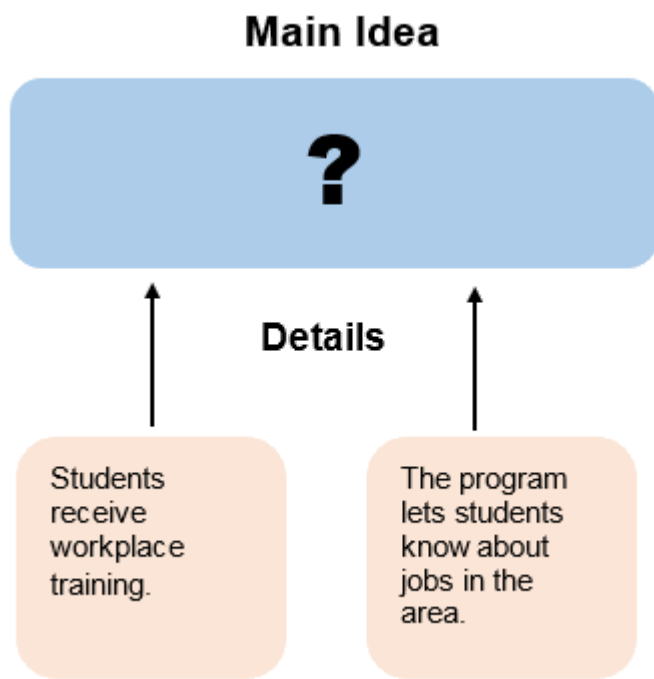**stipend** *(noun)*   a fixed amount of money paid to help cover expenses

Stretch Activity

PART 1

Question 1

Main Idea

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There is a large rectangle with a question mark in it. Above the rectangle, it says "Main Idea of the Article." Under the rectangle, there are two smaller boxes with arrows pointing up to the rectangle. Each small box includes a detail from the Article. The box on the left says "Students receive workplace training." The box on the right says "The program lets students know about jobs in the area."

(A) The Summer R.I.S.E. program helps prepare students for careers that they might pursue locally after high school.

(B) The Summer R.I.S.E. program offers students training on workplace behavior and communication.

(C) Each student who takes part in the Summer R.I.S.E. program is given a bus pass and workplace clothing.

(D) Each student who takes part in the Summer R.I.S.E. program receives a $300 stipend at the end of the internship.

Question 2

According to the Article, what is one benefit of the Summer R.I.S.E. program?

(A) Students who take part in Summer R.I.S.E. may pursue career opportunities in Montgomery County.

(B) Students who take part in Summer R.I.S.E. may choose to return to Montgomery County after working elsewhere for many years.

(C) Students who take part in Summer R.I.S.E. are likely to stay in the Montgomery County area and become employers who support the internship program.

(D) Students who take part in Summer R.I.S.E. will require less training after they finish high school, saving Maryland state employers a lot of money.

Question 3

A *stipend* is a kind of _____.

(A) Discount

(B) Certificate

(C) Statement

(D) Payment

Question 4

Which of these is a statement of opinion?

(A) Students in the Summer R.I.S.E. program work in an internship for three weeks and then receive a $300 stipend.

(B) Students from all 25 of Montgomery County's high schools took part in the first year of the Summer R.I.S.E. program.

(C) Summer R.I.S.E. is the most powerful way to encourage high school students to plan for the future at a young age.

(D) Summer R.I.S.E. attracted more than 140 businesses, government agencies, and nonprofits to take part in the program.

Question 5

The reader can tell from the Article that _____.

(A) Craig Rice is probably undecided about whether he wants to help secure funding for Summer R.I.S.E. 2019.

(B) Science is probably one of Aelina Pogosian's favorite subjects at her high school in Montgomery County, Maryland.

(C) Jennifer Sengbusch was concerned that Aelina Pogosian didn't understand the lab safety rules after her three-week internship.

(D) Will Jawando founded Summer R.I.S.E. with the primary goal of becoming a local government official in Montgomery County, Maryland.

Question 6

The Article states:

> **"So how do we also expose [students] to [the fact] that there are jobs here in the county that they could be doing in a year or two that pay well and are on career [tracks]? So [the program] not only benefits the students, but hopefully [also] benefits the county and the region. If they stay here, they become *productive* [as] citizens and as taxpayers."**

Which is the closest **synonym** for the word *productive*, as it is used above?

(A) Valuable

(B) Dangerous

(C) Courageous

(D) Miserable

Question 7

Which quote from the Article best supports the idea that Aelina Pogosian felt her Summer R.I.S.E. internship was a valuable experience?

(A) Summer R.I.S.E. was developed through a partnership. Government officials, Montgomery County Public Schools, and a job training organization called WorkSource Montgomery all worked together.

(B) The program launched in the summer of 2017. More than 140 businesses, government agencies, and nonprofits stepped up and offered to host the students for the internships.

(C) "A lot of the materials and machinery we used [in Summer R.I.S.E. are] not [available] at most high schools, [and it's] really important for me to learn how to use these things," Aelina said.

(D) "It's really something that if we're going to be serious about being globally competitive [and] providing a number of different options for our children, we've got to make sure that we put our money where our mouth is."

Question 8

Based on the Article, the reader can predict that _____.

(A) Summer R.I.S.E. will no longer include science internships in its summer offerings since it's hard for students to learn lab safety rules.

(B) The focus of Summer R.I.S.E. will shift to providing internships to college students instead of high school students.

(C) In 2019, student stipends in the Summer R.I.S.E. program will increase from $300 to $600 for completing a three-week internship.

(D) As the program grows, more businesses will step up to partner with Summer R.I.S.E. and offer summer internships.