YOU KAN: a graduate student perspective on K-12 Outreach in KS

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YOU KAN: a graduate student perspective on K-12 Outreach in KS

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Science gets interesting at interfaces.
**K-12 Outreach in Kansas**

**NSF GK-12 EIDROP Fellow (2014-2015) #0841414**
Partnership with USD 475
‘Resident Scientist’, AP Biology

**EXCITE! Summer Workshop Series (2015, 2016) KAWSE Office**

**4-H SPecial INterest (SPIN)**
Fall 2015-Spring 2016
After school programming with USD 383, 2nd-5th grades

**Camp R.O.A.R. (Real Observation ARound Us), Lincoln Elementary School, K-5th grades, funded by ASCB COMPASS Outreach grant**
Engaging in outreach is a **unique graduate training experience**.
Successful outreach programs *meet students where they are.*
Who should I partner with?
How often should I visit?
How long should the visits be?
What should I talk about?
Should we do experiments?
How do I know if it’s too complex?
What if the students laugh at me?!
What if a zombie apocalypse begins while I’m there?!

• You will not be perfect.
• You will need help.
• Things will not go exactly as you plan.
• You will get better with time.

If you walk into the classroom with good intentions and a plan, you will succeed.
Find your *niche*.
Interweave a *message* or *set of themes* into your outreach curriculum.
(Stop.) **Collaborate and listen.**
Maximize your influence through a mix of sustained and short-term partnerships.
Don’t tell them. Don’t just show them. Let them *DO*. 
Construct the illusion of *spontaneity*.

Be cautiously *adventurous*.
Connect with your audience through *familiar* and *accessible mediums*. 
Don’t work harder. *Work smarter.*
You can become the resident ‘OUTREACH EXPERT’.

DO NOT OVERCOMMIT.

BE STRATEGIC IN YOUR OUTREACH.

GRADUATION IS ALWAYS PRIORITY #1.
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ASCRIPT Committee for Postdocs and Students
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4-H SPIN GROUPS
John Jobe, County Agent
Megan Loverude, USD 383
Kate Harrell, USD 383

AP BIOLOGY COLLABORATION
Junction City High School
Rebecca Steiger, A.P. Biology

R.O.A.R. SCIENCE DAY
Lincoln Elementary School
Kathi Teeter, Principal