

Brady eighth-graders experience UNL

Written by Austin Benson
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Life of a scientist.

Two Brady Public School eighth-grade students experienced what it's like to be a scientist on the campus of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

Miguel Reese and Lexi Simants were two of 36 students statewide selected for the science, technology, English and math (STEM) exploration day last Friday.

Tony Munter, a 7-12 science teacher, said the students completed an application process that included a letter of recommendation.

"If they were selected it was a way for them to spend a day at UNL's research laboratory," Munter said.

He noted that the program focused on curriculum in C and D classification schools.

During their exploration day Reese and Simants were in two sessions to navigate through the research lab and participate in STEM activities.

The activities were pretty much crash courses over a wide range of sciences such as nanotechnology and biomedical engineering, Munter said

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Reese chose to explore a “What Is Nanotechnology?” session in the morning but in his afternoon session, (his favorite), he said. He learned about maggots, touched them and even took a couple home.

Simants went through an “Elephant Trunk Encounter” course in the morning that allowed her to dig for fossils and see different types of mammoths.

“I thought the researchers did a good job of showing us what to do and how to do it,” Simants said.

Munter viewed this as a rare opportunity for the students to spend time in scientist shoes.

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