

Ruth Demree

EDUCATION

Linköping University, Sweden 09/2021 - 06/2023
Master of Science in Applied Ethology and Animal Biology

- Thesis: "[Domestication effects on the human-chicken relationship](#)"

Vassar College, Poughkeepsie 09/2016 - 05/2020
Bachelor of Arts in Biology, with departmental honors

- Thesis: "The growing resistance: an overview of *Haemonchus contortus* and a proposed novel PCR method for its identification in small ruminants"
- Overall GPA: 3.75/4.00
- Major GPA: 3.71/4.00

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Graduate Student, Linköping University, Sweden 05/2022 – 06/2023
Department of Biology

Advisor: Per Jensen

- Designed a behavioral study investigating the human-chicken relationship, collected and analyzed observational data, and wrote a manuscript on my findings.
- Demonstrated breed-level differences in chicken's human-animal interactions.
- Presented and defended a master's thesis, which is published online.

Research Group Member, Vassar College, Poughkeepsie 09/2019 – 05/2020
Department of Biology

Advisor: Glenn Proudfoot

- Captured and banded Northern saw-whet owls during their fall migration for Project OwlNet, a U.S. bird banding project.
- Introduced the method of analyzing total protein in blood serum with a refractometer to the lab.
- Analyzed blood slides for haematozoa blood parasites.

Research Group Member, Vassar College, Poughkeepsie 01/2018 – 05/2018
Department of Biology

Advisor: Megan Gall

- Recorded video and audio of black-capped chickadee foraging behavior in response to anthropogenic playback.
- Set up and maintained songbird feeding sites throughout the Vassar Preserve.

GRANTS AND FELLOWSHIPS

Internship Grant Fund, Vassar College 2019
\$5,000

Nancy Skinner Clark Fellowship, Vassar College 2021 – 2022

\$26,600

ANIMAL CARE EXPERIENCE

Rehabilitation Intern, Progressive Animal Welfare Society Wildlife Center 06/2019 – 08/2019
Lynnwood, WA

- Worked full time, ten-hour shifts, during which I assisted rehabilitators and volunteer staff, with a shift towards more independent work as I gained training in rehabilitation skills.
- Practiced daily handling, gavage feeding, force feeding, assist feeding, and administering oral and subcutaneous treatments to a large number of wild mammal and avian species native to the area.
- Investigated patient condition on intake, analyzed blood samples, and updated patient records. Assisted in the Baby Bird Nursery as needed.
- Provided daily environmental enrichment to patients, administered feedings and medications to wildlife patients, and prepared enclosures and species-specific diets from admission to release.

Animal Handler, Farm To You Revue 10/2018 – 03/2020
Poughkeepsie, NY

- Assisted in the transport and handling of farm animal ambassadors during educational youth presentations.
- Spoke with the public about species husbandry and behavior at events throughout New York, Connecticut, and New Jersey.

Intern, Clover Brooke Farm 09/2018 – 01/2020
Hyde Park, NY

- Assisted in the daily husbandry of large mammals by assessing herd health, diagnosing common health concerns early and making informed decisions on treatment, administering vaccinations and medications orally or through intramuscular and subcutaneous injection.
- Educated visitors of widely ranging ages and levels of experience about fiber farming and animal husbandry during public events, both on the farm and off-site.

Intern, Trevor Zoo 01/2017 – 05/2017
Millbrook, NY

- Prepared animal diets, cleaned enclosures and restocked food and supplies.

Animal Caretaker and Program Facilitator, Paws Farm 06/2012 – 08/2016
Mount Laurel, NJ

- Managed daily operation of the farm: prepared and administered animal diets, cleaned enclosures, and restocked supplies.
- Organized children's programs such as on and offsite animal presentations, holiday events, tours, and lessons. Handled small mammals and reptiles during shows.

TEACHING AND OUTREACH EXPERIENCE

Video Producer, Palmer Public Library 11/2023 – present
Remote position

- Write and produce episodes of *Nature Walks with Ruth*, a children's YouTube program that aims to encourage viewers to observe and study the natural world.

Producer, Big Biology Podcast 02/2021 – 10/2023

Remote position

- Produced biweekly episodes of Big Biology podcast, a show ranked among the top Life Sciences podcasts in the world. Communicated about scientific theory and research in an educational, entertaining, and accessible manner.
- Managed a production team of established biologists and early-career researchers.

Communications and Outreach Assistant, Save the Harbor/Save the Bay

01/2021 – 05/2021

Remote Position

- Assisted the Outreach and Office Coordinator in the planning and production of the virtual 2021 Shamrock Splash fundraising event for the Boston Harbor region.
- Created daily social content in the form of visual graphics, text posts, and videos, and participated in weekly team meetings to discuss the progress of the fundraising event. Drafted press releases, Facebook advertisements, and newsletters to be sent to the community.

Audience Engagement Intern, Big Biology Podcast

09/2020 – 01/2021

Remote position

- Managed social media accounts daily, advertised upcoming episodes and events with engaging science communication content.
- Created a virtual bookshelf based on topics discussed in previous episodes.

Biology Tutor, Private
Amherst, MA

06/2020 – 12/2020

- Developed biology lessons for a high school-aged student.
- Collaborated with the student to form a study question on chicken behavior and design an experiment.

Teacher's Assistant, Wimpfheimer Nursery School
Poughkeepsie, NY

01/2019 – 02/2019

- Assisted the faculty with preparation for daily classes and events.
- Supervised classrooms of children aged 2-4 throughout the school day.

Substitute Aide, Mount Laurel Township Schools
Mount Laurel, NJ

09/2016 – 09/2017

- Worked in kindergarten through eighth grade classrooms, assisting students during the school day.
- Functioned as an Autistic, Hygienic, and One-to-one Aide, as well as an Aide to Class.