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Independent Study and Mentorship 3B

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**Branching Out**

Weekly Report 10/30/17 to 11/06/17

This week in ISM was very slow. Students continued researching, cold calling, and brainstorming for their original work ideas.

This week, I decided to complete a career outlook assessment for research psychology in order to learn more about the career itself. As I began my research, I found myself surprised at how many options and branches there were. Of all the branches, neuroscience and cognition seemed the most appealing to me because I am fascinated by memory, emotion, and cognition. I am also very interested in biology, which plays a major role in this branch of research psychology. If I go into research, I will need to earn my doctorate, which will require an additional four to six years of school after I complete my undergraduate education. I am prepared for this, and I know that I will have to keep my grades up in college in order to be accepted in a good school for my graduate degree.

I also began looking into possible professionals that I can interview with in the future. I decided that I will need to branch out of the Frisco area. My previous interviews have been informative, but not quite what I have been looking for. This is most likely because none of the
professionals I have interviewed with specialize in research. In the future, I hope to interview with college professors from either the University of Texas at Dallas or the University of North Texas. Many of these professors conduct research outside of their teaching positions, so I believe that these interviews will be more useful to me.

Overall, this week was informative, but not as productive as the past few weeks have been. Next week, I hope to cold call and schedule interviews with some college professors at UTD or UNT and brainstorm a plausible original work idea.
Accomplished this week:

- Researched the basics of research psychology
- Researched potential interview candidates
- Began writing my Research Presentation
- Continued brainstorming for my original work

Goals for next week:

- Cold call and schedule interviews with college professors
- Finish and present my Research Presentation
- Finalize my idea for the original work
- Continue research about my topic