

Mad Scientist Behind the Scenes: A Reflection on the Art of Science Writing

by Elizabeth Miller

I enjoy reading blogs and had always thought about how cool it would be to write a blog, but nowadays there are so many mommy-bloggers that I had never been able to come up with an original blog idea of my own. But after writing a post that tied together my love for science and quirky writing, I knew I had finally discovered my IU East Honors Capstone Project; the perfect bookend for my college career (“About,” 2016).

Writing for *Simple Science* was not an easy feat. I would say the hardest part was deciding on a current scientific event and figuring out a way to give it an original spin, all while sticking to the original goal of translating scientific breakthroughs into layman’s terms for the average reader--because we can’t all be mad scientists! After I would decide on a topic, then I would spend five or more hours fully researching the topic and writing up a post ranging from 400-1000 words. My favorite part of this whole process was completing a post—not just because it was one more task I could cross off my to-do list, but because of the immense high I would get from finishing a worthwhile and original piece after so much hard work. Although it’s hard to pick a favorite post, check out this memorable piece where I include a personal video of my dog to demonstrate new research on how dogs compute information from humans (Miller. E., 2016).

Through this project I’ve learned that writing original works is not an easy task and is often something that takes a lot more time than I expected. Writing isn’t like solving a math problem where there’s one way to solve the problem and one answer. Instead, it takes a lot of determination and desire, and for me, it’s about finding just the right time and mindset to do my best work. At this point, I’m just happy to have completed my blog, and I don’t have a current intention to continue my posts. With that said, I can still definitely see myself jumping at the chance to write a post about a crazy scientific advancement in the future just because, so be sure to check out all my posts (“Simple Science,” 2016). I really do enjoy writing when I have a

set goal and purpose so I hope it's something I can keep doing in the future, even just for fun. I'm not sure where I'm off to after graduation, but I know that this project has helped prepare me for a career that involves writing, no matter what my job title might be.

References

About. (2016). *Simple Science*. Retrieved from <https://irismaeblog.wordpress.com/about/>.

Miller E. Keep talking, Fido & Spot understand. (Oct. 26, 2006). *Simple Science*. Retrieved from <https://irismaeblog.wordpress.com/2016/10/26/keep-talking-fido-spot-understand/>.

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