**Reflecting on Your Bass Connections Experience**

We encourage studentsto reflect on what they have learned from their Bass Connections experience. Reflection can be indispensable to the learning process—helping you consolidate your experience and articulate what you’ve learned and how you’ve grown. This in turn can help you communicate what your team did and what skills you developed to future employers, graduate school admissions boards, family and friends, etc.

Reflections can take many forms, such as [text](https://bassconnections.duke.edu/about/news/student-movements-and-social-histories-summer-story), [photo essays](https://bassconnections.duke.edu/about/news/notes-peruvian-amazon-mining-and-mercury-madre-de-dios), [interviews](https://bassconnections.duke.edu/about/news/math-and-masterpiece), [videos](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0OpWlwke57c), [podcasts](https://bassconnections.duke.edu/about/news/tracking-infectious-disease-malaysia) and more. They can be written by a single author (you) or they can be [collaborative](https://dukevisiblethinking.pubpub.org/pub/1-1-fertin-kanyogo-kinyua), featuring multiple voices or shared perspectives. Reflections can be public documents, meant for sharing with your team or a wider audience, or they can be private, meant for only your eyes.

If you’re interested in sharing your reflection, we encourage you to brainstorm ideas and/or share your completed reflection with Meghan O’Neil (mmo12@duke.edu), Assistant Director of Bass Connections. She can help you shape your work and, with your permission, post it to our website for circulation to members of the Bass Connections community and beyond.

We also encourage you to [browse](https://bassconnections.duke.edu/student-resources/student-stories) the growing collection of reflections on the Bass Connections website, which can give you ideas that might guide your own reflection process. These first-person reflections highlight topics such as [team successes and challenges](https://bassconnections.duke.edu/student-stories/katie-kanter); [working in the field](https://bassconnections.duke.edu/student-stories/sandra-batakana); [collaborating with community partners](https://bassconnections.duke.edu/student-stories/ryan-fitzgerald); [personal growth and leadership](https://bassconnections.duke.edu/student-stories/kathleen-burns); [sharing research with diverse audiences](https://bassconnections.duke.edu/student-stories/alex-rudee); and [showcasing research outputs](https://bassconnections.duke.edu/about/news/students-publish-energy-research-first-issue-duke-visible-thinking-journal). Reflections can also explore how a Bass Connections team helped [shape an educational pathway](https://bassconnections.duke.edu/about/news/investigating-economics-durhams-arts-scene) or [inspire a future career](https://bassconnections.duke.edu/about/news/how-engineer-discovered-awesome-career-path-data-analytics).

To help you begin, we’ve suggested a few ***optional*** prompts below.

* What is your major/program? What is your Bass Connections project team, summer program or course?
* Why did you decide to pursue this experience, and how does it connect to your interests?
* How has this learning experience differed from other learning experiences that you have participated in?
* How did your team engage in collaboration and teamwork? Did you discover anything new about how you learn or how you engage with a team?
* What was your role on the team? How did you work with undergraduates/graduate students/postdocs/faculty on the team and how did you benefit from that experience?
* What impact has this experience had on you and your future plans? Did you uncover new interests; discover something you do (or do not) want to do; gain important new knowledge or shift your perspective on a question or problem; make an important network connection; create a product such as a published article?
* What challenges did you, or your team, face? How did you address these challenges, and what did you learn from that experience? (For example, were there points when you had to rethink your work or go down a different path? Were there instances where you felt directionless or in over your head? If so, how did you address this individually and/or as a team?)
* If you participated in fieldwork, can you describe some successes and/or challenges related to that experience?
* How did you and/or your team members navigate the transition from the research stage of your project to implementation, if applicable? What were the challenges?
* What was the most rewarding aspect of your Bass Connections experience? What was most challenging? What was the most surprising?