

## Lorie Bumphrey—AmeriCorps Fall 2002 Washington Jr. High School

My experience with AmeriCorps was the best experience of my life. I was placed at Washington Junior High where I tutored and mentored eighth graders. My placement taught me a lot about myself as well as what I want to do in life.



This is one of the students I worked with on a daily basis throughout my term of service.

Before becoming a member, I was very shy and reserved. My placement helped me to become more outgoing and sociable. Although I was somewhat independent before, this experience taught me to be truly independent, but at the same time be able to be a team player. Being a tutor and mentor improved my self-confidence because the students helped me realize how important I am to them. AmeriCorps helped me to become the person I always wanted to be.

AmeriCorps also helped me to realize that I would love to help adolescents in my future. This age is very critical in a person's life. Adolescents need guidance and I feel that I can provide them with it. Now I want to get my teaching degree so that I can further help this age group. Overall, AmeriCorps is a great program, which not only benefits the students and schools it serves, but also its members.

I was able to help at the Children's Spring Party at the Arboretum. It was fun greeting children in the bunny costume.

