



STEMExplore

VIRTUAL CAREER CONNECTION

Date: Wednesday, June 17, 2020

Time: 1:00-1:30 pm

Registration Link:

Select PRIMETIME Palm Beach County

https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_nKYnUiPBQrWDVuEraT9UkQ

Guest Mentor: Aditi Jayarajan
Bat biologist, PhD student at the
University of Florida & Florida Museum



Host: Kasey Gaylord-Opalewski

**STEM Topic/Career: biology, bat
conservation**

**During this 30-minute live session, youth participants
will:**

- Learn about bat conservation and mammalogy as a career
- Observe the day to day tasks of a bat biologist
- Gain insight into this STEM career and learn the steps it takes to become a professional in this area
- Ask interview questions of our guest STEMExplore expert





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Aditi's Biography:

Aditi's research has been focused on the Caribbean islands, using bats as a model system. Bats are extremely diverse with over 1400 species which have been described. The Caribbean islands face many threats due to climate change and habitat loss over time. The islands have grown and shrunk with the change in sea levels and even though bats are volant mammals, they have experienced several stresses which make some populations go extinct on certain islands. Aditi uses morphology to look at bat populations. She combines modern and fossil bats in order to understand changes that have occurred over time. Aditi also uses modern Computed Tomography (CT) scans to visualize bats. Having access to museum specimens at the Florida Museum and through CT scans, she can visualize skeletal as well as internal structures without having to dissect a valuable museum specimen. Aditi uses these CT scanned bats to create 3-D models which highlight the different feeding morphologies of bats.

Learn more about Virtual Career Connections at [STEMExplore.com](https://www.stemexplore.com)