

February 17th, 2018

Dear Hope,

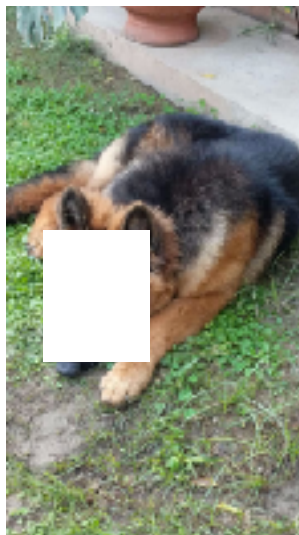
Thank you for your letter! I love hearing from you - your letters are the highlight of my month when I get them!

I was amazed to hear about your ideal job and your dreams for the future! Being an architect sounds like such a wonderful thing - what kinds of buildings will you design? Will they be large museums and libraries, or houses and homes? How did you get interested in architecture? Have you met any architects and seen how they work on different types of projects? I think with hard work and determination, you'll be incredibly successful at whatever you set your heart to! I know there is a lot of school before you get there, but school is especially fun when you are studying things you are passionate about. I'm looking forward to the day when I hear fantastic things about a wonderful up-and-coming architect, Hope!

Are tigers your favorite animals? Do you know anyone who has a pet tiger? I've only ever seen tigers at zoos, though Princeton University's mascot is also a Tiger! When we have sports events, there is always someone dressed up like a tiger walking around, making people feel excited about the event and showing some school spirit. Here is a picture of the Princeton mascot tiger at a basketball game:



I love all animals, but I think I am happiest when I see a dog or sheep! I don't have a pet dog right now because my husband and I live in a small apartment and we are not allowed to have pets. My parents have a dog named Baloo, after my favorite character from The Jungle Book. Baloo (the dog) is a rather silly dog - he loves to chase birds and play catch and his favorite toy is a red ball. He also really likes eating rice, and loves taking long naps. This is what Baloo the dog looks like:



Have you ever been to Ireland? It sounds like a wonderful place to visit and live! My best friend is from Ireland, and she has promised to take me one day. From all the pictures and videos that I have seen, it looks beautiful! The prettiest place I have ever visited is New Zealand - I love mountains more than anything else in the world, and New Zealand has a lot of mountains and volcanoes because the country sits on what is called the 'ring of fire'. The 'ring of fire' is region in the Pacific Ocean that has a lot of volcanoes and frequent earthquakes. This is because the 'ring of fire' is a region where tectonic plates are colliding into one another. Tectonic plates are the jigsaw-puzzle pieces that make up the surface of our planet, and these puzzle-pieces like to move and crash into one another! Some times the puzzle-pieces also move away from each other, or slide past each other. When the pieces move, we have earthquakes! In New Zealand, 2 such pieces are crashing into each other creating some very big mountains, the Southern Alps. Here is a picture of me being a little silly in front of some mountains in New Zealand:



Your research project on Pluto sounds like a lot of fun! I know very little about Pluto (except for its 'heart'), and am looking forward to hearing what sorts of cool facts you learn while doing your research. I am excited to hear about the things that capture your interest, and make their way into your project. Is your project a written essay only, or will you have to present your findings orally too? I haven't studied too many other planets, but a lot of my friends research Mars! It is always fun to hear about their new discoveries, because there is so much about Mars we don't really know.

It is hard for me to pick a favorite song, because I have so many! Currently, I get excited every time *Perfect*, *Havana* or *Thunder* come on the radio. I also like *This is Me*, from 'The Greatest Showman'. I guess I like different kinds of songs depending on what I am doing - I like *Hamilton* for when I am driving, but prefer music without words for if I need to study.

I look forward to hearing from you! Good luck with your project and other school work!

Best,

Alliya