Undergraduate Student Research Positions:  
Microbes and leaf decomposition in the Sonoran Desert  
Gain experience and get paid over the summer 
Flexible work hours to fit your schedule  
Be part of a team studying the carbon cycle & plant litter decomposition in the Sonoran Desert  
School of Life Sciences, ASU, Tempe

**Description:** Works in both the laboratory and field as part of a research team examining the role of plants and microbes in carbon cycling in deserts. Laboratory work involves making measurements using analytical balances and other instruments (e.g. fluorescence and electron microscopes, gas analyzers, microclimate sensors) which you will be trained to use. Responsible for organizing data in spreadsheets (e.g. Excel) and graphically analyzing data (which you will be trained to do). Occasional cleaning of laboratory glassware. Sorting and preparing plant and soil samples. Occasional field work involving collecting plant and soil samples, collecting data from gas-exchange and climatological instruments, and maintaining experiments at field sites.

**Qualifications:** Available to work 20-40 hrs/week over the coming summer; there is some flexibility in this to allow students vacation time. Positions may be extended through subsequent semesters depending with satisfactory performance and continued funding availability. General knowledge of biology or chemistry to include at least 2 introductory college courses in either biology or chemistry for majors. Good organizational, quantitative and analytical skills. Ability to organize data in spreadsheets and follow instructions to manipulate and analyze data. Interest in learning new research techniques. Comfortable with occasional outdoor work. Valid driver's license. Preferred: GPA of at least 3.0.

**Number of Positions:** 1-2  
**Title:** Research/Laboratory Aide  
**Hours/Week:** 20 - 40 hours/week during summer (w/ some flexibility)  
**Starting Pay Rate:** $9/hour  
**Availability:** immediately

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