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We are dedicated to helping promising students maximize their potential by providing encouragement, guidance, mentoring, and support. It would be greatly appreciated if you would assist our mission by writing an open letter to our nation's youth. Your thoughts on how to make the most of life, especially the career component that represents such a large part of our lives, would be most helpful. This message will be distributed via our website and publications.

Dear Young People,

I recently celebrated my 100th birthday after a long successful career as a scientist. The most important lesson I learned during my education was that hard work is the only sure way to success. And one must always try to like what one is doing because work is so much more enjoyable if one does. So I urge you to enjoy what you are doing even if it involves hard work. Don't shy away from it, because it is part of your education. I endured great hardships in the 2 1/2 years of stay in the tropical jungles, but it was worth it. It paid me back a hundred fold later in life.

Best wishes for a successful and enjoyable life!

Sincerely,

Ernst Mayr

Title: Professor of Zoology emer.

Date: 15 Nov. 2004

Student Achievement & Advocacy Services is a 501 (c)(3) organization dedicated to helping students maximize their potential.