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Students from ethnic minorities have long been underrepresented in research-level mathematics. Summer programs offer the opportunity for such students to strengthen critical skills needed to be successful in both professional and academic careers. We received a grant this past summer to offer a Research Experience for Undergraduates (REU) in knot theory. The REU had three components: a research component, a mathematical communication component (writing and speaking mathematics effectively), and a professional development component (graduate school, careers in mathematics, etc.). We present an overview of our experience. Specific results will also be discussed. (Received September 11, 2009)