

## *A day to remember*

Today was a special day. I woke up earlier than usual. For the past couple of months, I've been so excited to go to my mom's work and meet the people she works with, as well as learning about all the tasks she performs.

The day started out with my mom waking me up at 5:00 A.M. We got ourselves ready and were at my mom's work by 6:30 A.M. When we got there, my mom showed me where the break room and bathroom was. We got ourselves some coffee then went back to my mom's workspace at the front counter.

I learned that my mom is a Public Utility Representative. Soon after, people were showing up and I was being introduced to the three ladies my mom works with at the front counter.

The next thing we did was walk over to the next building to meet the rest of the people that work at the P.U.D and their kids. My mom and I made nametags then found a bag with my name on it. Inside of the bag were a green T-shirt and a whole bunch of fun goodies in it.

After everyone made their nametags and had put on their green P.U.D t-shirts, the kids were split into three groups based upon their age.

The tour we had, I have to admit, was really awesome. My group went through the whole place and learned about all the different kinds of wires they use and the safety tools they use when dealing with the wires.

After we went through the whole facility, we all met up and had a group picture taken. After that, all the kids met up in the boardroom and were handed out snacks. After I was done eating, I went back to my mom to watch her work while I played with her finger grippers and post-its.

One thing I really enjoyed doing was helping one of the ladies that work at the front counter with my mom, Susan. It was so fun, she would give me papers that needed to be sent to people, and I would put them in envelopes. I was willing to lick them all shut, but my mom said I didn't have to. She introduced me to this really neat envelope licker thing.

When I was done helping Susan, my mom let me sit in her comfy chair. That's when I saw this label maker sitting next to her computer, and I just had to try it. So I made a label with my name on it. I have to get me one of those!

The next thing I did was filling out the interview sheet with my mom. I had fun doing that because I learned a lot about my mom and her job. At noon, we all met up and had Fultano's Pizza. It was really good.

After I was completely stuffed with pizza, I went for a bucket ride. You really don't want to go up in that if you are afraid of heights. I'm not afraid of heights so I thought it was really fun. Then I watched a lineman climb up a pole. When I got back to my mom, a lady walked up to me and asked if I wanted to see the demo board. I said sure and went to see it.

The demo board was really neat. It had miniature power lines, houses, people, and vehicles. The demo board pretty much shows what happens when someone comes in contact with a power line. The cool part about it is that you actually get to see the sparks when the little plastic figures come in contact with the power lines. The dude that was operating the demo board let me use the demo board. That was awesome.

When I got back to my mom's workspace, someone came up to me and said that there is a lineman working on power lines in Rainier. I wanted to see how they do it so I went to watch. So I went and watched them feed a power line through the pole. I enjoyed watching the lineman working on the power lines.

When we were back from Rainier, I went to hang out with my mom. While I was in Rainier, I missed the PARK CLEAN-UP. So my mom thought we could take a break and walk to the coffee shop. Kimberly, another lady that works upfront with my mom, wanted to take a break as well. So my mom, Kimberly, her son, and I went to Flowers "n" Fluff to get ourselves some coffee.

After that we went back to the P.U.D. By then it was around 4:30 and we were sitting at her workspace, and my mom let me make another label from the label maker. The day went by so fast. I learned a lot, got to meet people that work with my mom, and even got to do a little work with my mom and Susan.

I had so much fun doing the activities and learning about all the tasks that are performed throughout the P.U.D. I now know why my mom comes home tired because she seems to be pretty darn busy throughout her day. I think my mom works hard and thrives to give an outstanding performance at what she is working on.

When it was 5:00, I was amazed by how fast the day ended. I'm really glad I was able to come and participate on this day. I've realized it took a lot of effort and time to organize this day out. I really appreciate it, and I'm sure other people feel the same way.

I'm still trying to convince my mom to let me come to her work and work for her for a couple of hours a day. I told her I'd take out her garbage, get her water, coffee, anything she needs, and I also told her I'd rub her feet when she isn't very busy.

By: *Jessie Gillespie*  
Age 14