Chou Thao

**Where do you see yourself in five years? How many steps will you take to make that happen?**

I have many career goals five years from now. I want to teach and work with children with a degree in Child Development and Recreation Administration. Five years from now I want to be an outdoor educator such as an outdoor education instructor or an interpreter ranger. Interpreter rangers are park rangers who specialize in interpreting the natural, historical, or cultural resources of the site for park visitors. Five years from now I want to work for the National Park Service. I feel good because I feel I am pursuing a career that I love. I like working with kids and I also like working in the outdoors.

There are steps that I must take before I can become an outdoor education instructor or an interpreter ranger. I am glad that I have already taken a few steps that will help me reach my five year goals. In spring 2011, I was an intern for the organization Outdoor Classroom/Kids and Creeks. I was an outdoor education instructor for Outdoor Classroom. This internship position helped teaches me the skills necessary to become an outdoor education instructor or an interpreter ranger in the future. I was glad I found an internship position that also relates to my career jobs.

In spring 2012 my goal is to obtain an interpreter ranger internship position with the National Park Service. I have already contacted the organization and they seem to want me to join their team. Highlights from this internship position include creating, implementing and teaching outdoor curriculum for visitors and children who attend the National Park. My goal for spring 2012 is to graduate from California State University, Chico with bachelor’s degrees in Child Development and Recreation Administration. After I graduate from California State University, Chico I want to work as a camp counselor. Camp counselor positions are not hard to obtain and it provides the necessary skills I need to help me reach my five year goals that’s why I want to work as a camp counselor. After that I will use my resources to help me obtain a position working as either an outdoor education instructor or an interpreter ranger.