## Summer Program in Monterey Sayako Mori

In this summer program, I had many opportunities to experience things that I can't experience in Japan.

Before I visited Monterey, I had worried about my communication ability in English. However, my host family was so kind that I was relieved. Every time I went back home from MIIS I played with their children until dinner. They took us many places on holidays such as a beautiful beach and river, San Francisco, and the aquarium. Since I had a wonderful three weeks, saying good-bye to them on the last day made me so sad. I was impressed that my host family prayed for us as they shed tears on my departure day. I will never forget those wonderful days that I spent with my host family.

I was impressed by the kindness of people in America as well as my host family. I don't know how many times I was helped by kind people. In Japan, people also help a person who is in trouble but it's limited only to when they are asked for help, I feel. In America, people gathered and guessed that I was in trouble from my looks, and helped me. That kind of attitude gave me a good impression of America. I'd like to become a person who helps people in trouble as American people do.

I learned many things at MIIS, of course. We had many opportunities to speak English in front of our classmates at MIIS. Through these classes I gained confidence little by little and grew accustomed to speaking English in front of an audience. I learned that the important thing to improve English is to have many conversations with people in English.

I had a many of unforgettable experiences in this program. I would like to thank many people for making those experiences possible.



With my host family. The Golden Gate Bridge on the back.