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My VEX Story

I haven’t been doing robotics for very long, but it has impacted me in many ways. Yes, being in robotics has helped me understand math better, but that isn’t all. Through competing in robotic competitions and communicating on the robot forum I have learned so much more.

Robotics isn’t all about who builds, programs or drives their robot the best. It’s about sportsmanship, teamwork, communication, and encouragement. Being able to communicate and form alliances quickly with teams you just met is paramount. Also helping others and discussing ideas has helped me gain insight and avoid many mistakes.

Sportsmanship in VEX is outstanding. I have witnessed opponents helping each other repair robots just minutes before a match, and then smiling and shaking hands in congratulations after being beaten by the team they just helped. That to me is the ultimate in sportsmanship and I decided that is how I want to compete.

I found that I enjoy helping new teams get started. Encouraging them to keep going. Watching as they design and program a robot, then seeing their faces light up as they try it out for the first time is one of the coolest things ever.

Basically robotics has made me a better person. I have learned sportsmanship, teamwork, and communication. Encouraging and sharing the love of robotics is awesome. One other thing I have learned is you can reach for the stars when you are standing on the shoulders of giants.