



Lady Mary Builds a Robot

Mary Stokes, West Ashley High School, 9623B



Once upon a time a little girl, named Mary, wanted to become a Florist. She wanted to create the most beautiful bouquets and be able to sell all the most exotic flowers.

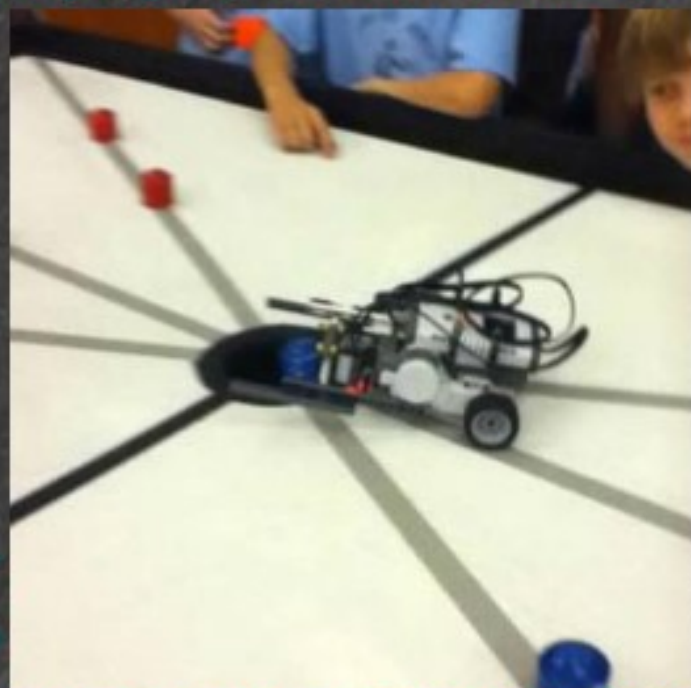
A few years later, she wanted to become a Marine Biologist. She absolutely loved animals and thought that because being out on the water was something she enjoyed, she would enjoy taking care of the animals of the sea.





When Mary turned 13, she discovered that these were not the only options.

Lady Mary began taking lessons with Madame Temples. Madame Temples helped Mary learn about Robotics with lego blocks and computers. Madame Temples saw how Mary excelled with computers and encouraged her to join a group of children who participated in competitions where they programmed and built robots to accomplish certain chores.



In her first competition, Lady Mary had to program her robot to move tubes into a hole. She believed that this sounded like a very simple task and would be no problem to her at all.



However, she was wrong. It was very difficult for Mary to program the robot to accomplish this chore because it was unpredictable. Lady Mary had to develop patience and adaptation in order to successfully complete the challenge.



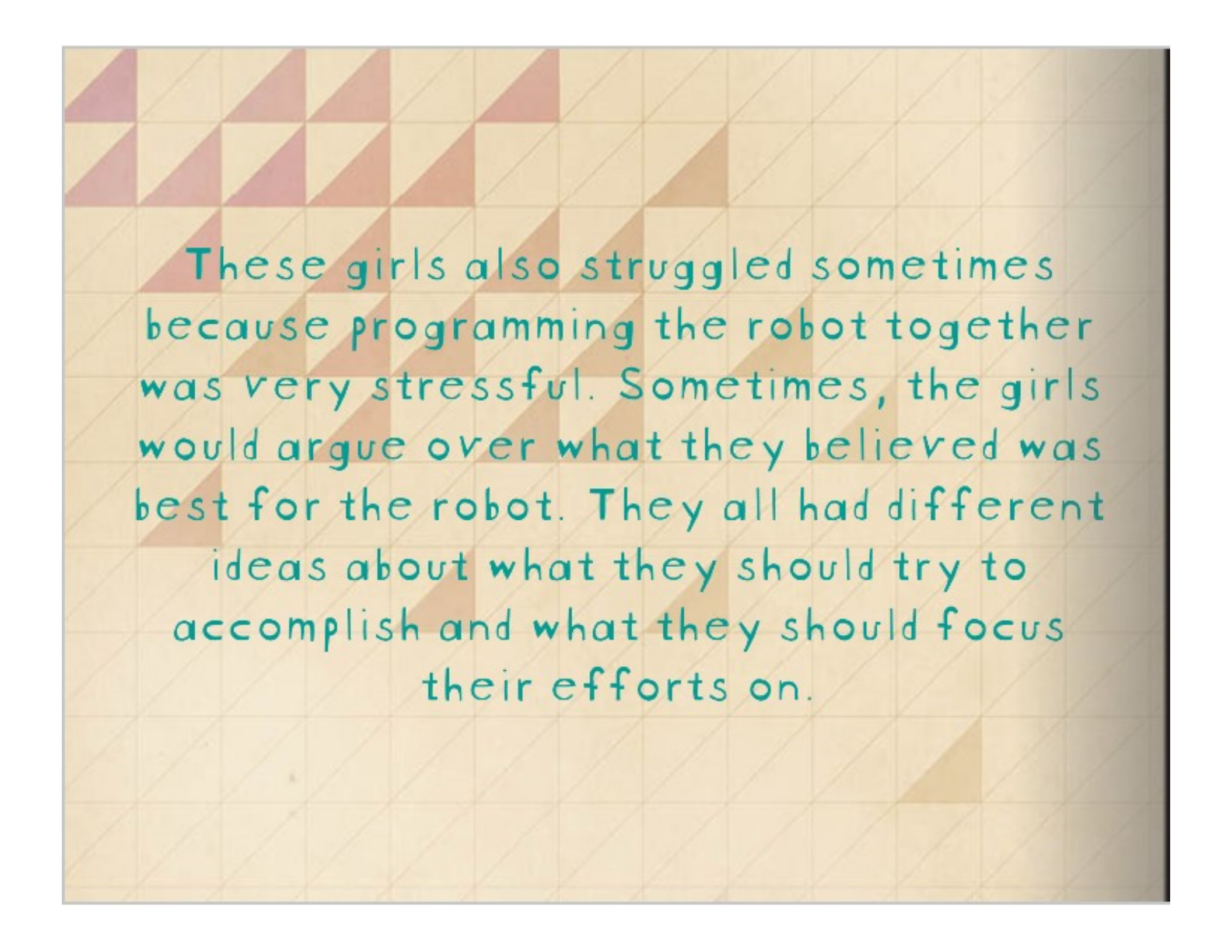


The next year, Lady Mary joined an all-girls group. They were called "The Lightning Queens" and they worked very hard to design and build a robot that could accomplish multiple tasks in a given amount of time. These girls were very talented and worked well together.



The friends competed in several competitions and obtained a ticket to participate in an event at a larger scale.





These girls also struggled sometimes because programming the robot together was very stressful. Sometimes, the girls would argue over what they believed was best for the robot. They all had different ideas about what they should try to accomplish and what they should focus their efforts on.



Madame Temples helped the girls to work together to include everyone's opinions and make the best robot they could.





When the girls went to the higher level competition, they made sure that they packed everything they would need for repairing the robot or charging it. They also took props for their interview and what they would need for any other aspect of the competition. Then, the girls made sure that their outfits were ready to go.



The girls may not have won the competition, but they learned a lot. They learned team work and that working together helped get them to the higher level competition. They were not let down because they went farther than they ever imagined they could.

Lady Mary learned about robotics and how sometimes it can be difficult to work with people that have different ideas. She learned about adaptation and patience and that a favorite toy from her younger years can play a part in helping her learn about what she wants to do with her future.





TEAM 9623



Mary Stokes

Team 9623B

Lady Mary Builds a Robot

