

# Riley's Adventure



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# Credits

*Riley's Adventure* was created by: Whitney Bowen, Hollis Cutler,  
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Team 12D

Created using Google Drawings

Our team created this story after joining robotics this year with no prior experience. As an all girls team, we first felt out of place in a male dominated atmosphere and experienced numerous setbacks because of our gender. However, after three months of hard work and dedication, we have qualified for nationals and states, both highly regarded achievements.

Now we have created a program where we talk to younger students, specifically girls, to expose them to STEM fields. We hope to inspire other girls and prove that girls can do robotics and excel at it.

Riley was a girl who grew up loving anything and everything hands-on. She played with trains...



She played with legos...



And she played with her favorite toy, the Rubik's cube.





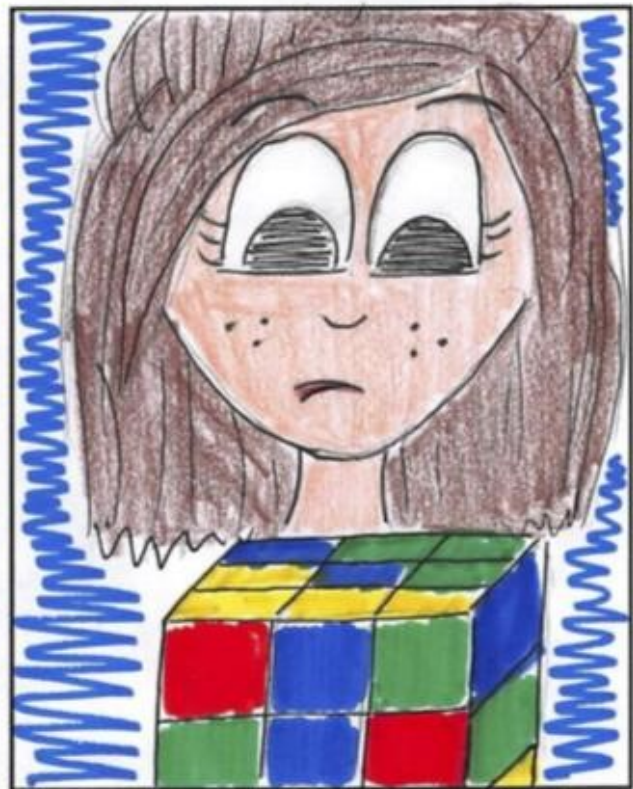
All through preschool and kindergarten, Riley pursued her passions.



But come second grade...



People started to critique Riley's interests, deeming them unfit for females.





After being bullied, Riley decided that she needed to change her passions, in order to conform to stereotypes for young girls.



She started bringing dolls to school instead of Rubik's cubes...



And playing house at recess...



She even stopped reading books at school.





Despite changing the games she played with, throughout most of elementary school

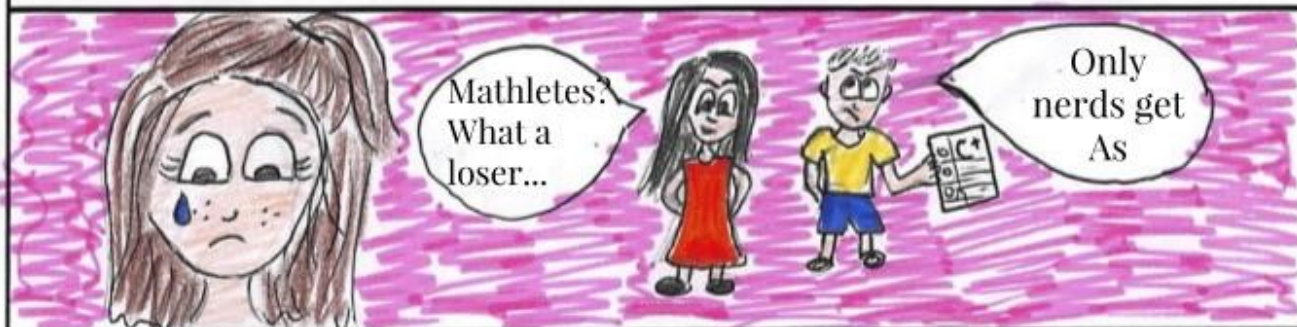
Riley remained a highly successful academic student who achieved good grades.



She even decided to join the math team, after befriending the head mathlete...



But when other students heard about Riley's straight-A report cards and success as a mathlete, they were far from accepting.





After quitting the math team, Riley decided to purposefully start getting worse grades, in hopes of "fitting in."



This trend continued throughout sixth grade, and into middle school...



Until one day, Riley's science teacher, Mrs. Andrews, pulled her aside after class.







After Riley's confession, Mrs. Andrews said she was mandating that Riley join the robotics team. Riley was terrified thinking about what the other girls would say...





Riley went into the robotics lab very unsure...



She found a few other girls and a handful of boys, all of them laughing and building robots.



She nervously introduced herself...



And found that she fit right in!





Riley came to love the time she spent in the robotics room.



She screwed on motors...



Calculated gear ratios...



Wrote in her engineering notebook...



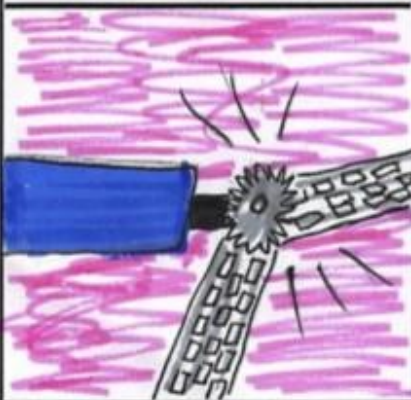
Wrote a program for her robot...



Coded an autonomous program...



Cut c-channels...



Practiced driving...



And made friends with the robotics team!





After a few months had gone by, Riley had risen above the mean girls, and pursued her passions shamelessly.



She even decided to start a program talking to younger girls, in hopes of motivating them to get involved with STEM.





There was one girl, Katie, who shied away from the robotics team. She smiled at her math, and frowned at her dolls...



Riley saw herself in the little girl, so one day she pulled her aside and had a long chat...



A few days later, sitting in math class, Riley looked out the window and saw Katie, sitting with some friends, and playing with a Rubik's cube!

