

GIRL POWERED PROJECT

72853V

Pandacorns

Two Rivers Elementary School

When we hear the words “Girl Powered” what do we think of?

The first thing that pops into our minds when we hear “Girl Powered” is Wonder Woman. Wonder Woman is a great role model for girls. Just like Wonder Woman, we feel like it is our responsibility to inspire girls to help make the world a better place. We should work together to help solve problems and protect our environment. In addition, we should work to inspire a diverse group of students to get involved in robotics and other fields that are mainly full of males.

How have we taken initiative to create a more inclusive environment that attracts a diverse group of students?

As a girl powered team, we have taken opportunities to share our experiences in robotics with our friends. Before this year, many of our friends have not expressed any interest in robotics. Through our competitions, team activities, and discussions, we have helped draw attention to robotics and the increasing need of robotics in today's world. Specifically we have worked to show others that an all girl team can be successful. We are excited that several of our friends have expressed an interest to participate in robotics next year. We hope to explore multiple job opportunities in the future that will involve robotics.

How each team member has tried various roles on the team (everything from designing, to building, programming, strategy, awards, etc.)? What have we learned through this experience?

During this season, every team member has learned a lot. We have been pushed outside of our comfort zone. The three of us have collaborated with other teams to design and build our robot. Once our robot was designed and built, each of us worked on game strategy and practicing our driving skills. Programming has been the portion that has proven the most challenging for our team. Our robot kits were backordered so we had to rush to get our robot designed and built prior to our first competition. Now we are beginning to all learn the basics of programming so that we can successfully program our robot to score autonomous points during skills challenges. The funniest thing we have learned is that WE HATE PULLING PEGS OUT AND PUTTING THEM BACK IN!

How do we believe diversity of perspective changes our robot design, our team chemistry, and even our ability to succeed?

Our team members have very diverse perspectives. Two of our team members were not social in the beginning. The third member has worked to help us collaborate with other teams at competitions and teams within our district. Our diversity has allowed us to work together and to be successful during our first year of robotics. Together we brainstorm ideas to change our robot design to make improvements. We feel like each of our individual qualities help us to work together better as a group.

Who is our STEM role model and why? Does this person inspire us to have a more inclusive team/program? How?

Our entire team agrees that our STEM role model is our second and third grade teacher Mrs. Shelly Davis. During second grade she helped develop our love for science and math through a variety of activities. She always pushed us to learn more. Her favorite saying to us was always “Show me how **A-MAZING** you are!” The next year she was our 3rd grade Literacy teacher. She loved having us again but returned the next year to 2nd grade because she missed getting to inspire students to learn science and math at an early age. Since then we have strove to be **A-MAZING** and learn as much information as we can to make her proud. She has encouraged us to become successful in everything we do. She lets us know that no matter who we are or what we have come from we can achieve anything that we put our mind to.

Our presentation is “Girl Powered Project”

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