IIIE EEAM Our Girl Powered Story



By: Tybi, Ivy, Lilly and Caroline

Their science teacher calls them in from recess to talk to them about robotics. They filled out an interest survey and have been chosen to participate! They are all excited to see which robotics program they will be doing this year.

Ivy: I want to join LEGO Robotics
because my sister got 2nd place in a
huge competition and I want to be
just like her!
Caroline: I want to do VEX because
my brother did it and it looked
really awesome.
Lilly: Each year I love watching the

LEGO Robotics presentation at

school. I would not want to do

anything else.

Caroline: Lilly, why else do you want to join robotics?

Lilly: Well, I have kinda always looked up to Sally Ride. She is just so inspiring! Even though she wasn't the first woman in space, she is very inspirational. She watched Neil Armstrong on the moon, and she never thought she would be in space someday. She was also the youngest woman ever in space! I really thinks she shows girl power.



Mrs Michael: Hi! Let's watch some videos on our two robotics programs.

Lilly: I want to do LEGO Robotics!

Ivy: Me too!

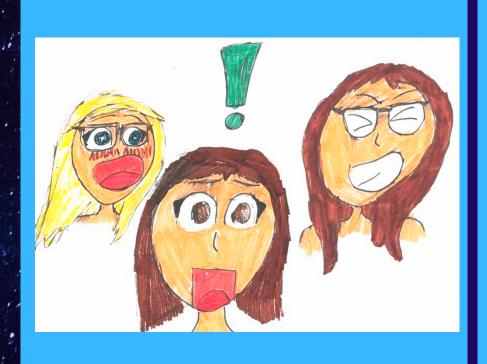
Caroline: Not me.

Mrs. Michael: And in VEX is Lilly, Ivy, and Caroline.

Lilly/Ivy: N0000000000000!!!!!

Caroline: Hooray!

Only one of them had ever even heard of VEX. They didn't know what to think.



They started to pick their team members.

Ivy (spoken): CAROLINE!
Caroline (spoken): IVY!

Ivy: (Thought) Who should we pick... (said out loud) Oh! Lilly Do you want to be on our team?

Lilly: (said) Sure! Caroline: (said) Let's start

working!



Soon they became a great team and even better friends.

They made a practice robot to get a handle on building and named it B.O.B. When it came time to make a real robot, they were the only team to design their own. They were feeling great until they discovered their robot was ENORMOUS compared to the other ones!



Mrs. Michael: Your robot is over the size limit.

Everyone looks at each other and

weeps except for Lilly.

Lilly: We should just start from
scratch. I know we can do it!

The next day, they got busy working on their new idea. Everything they learned from making the original robot helped them make an even better, more effective robot.



After building, documenting and practicing, they went to their first competition. In County they got about 12th place, but with the hard work of Ivy, Caroline, and Lilly, they got the Design Award. They were ecstatic! Their first award! They qualified for state!

They thought they might need to improve their robot for competing against the best in Tennessee.

Caroline: Ooh we should do this arm so we can get rings off the pegs.

Lilly: Great idea Caroline!

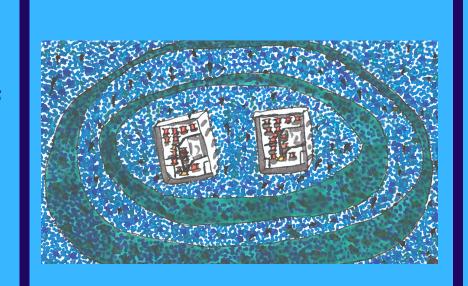
Ivy: We should do a program too!

They all agreed on a new robot idea.
They thought that they needed a
better design if they wanted to meet
all their goals.

To get ready for state, they all had to work on documenting, building and driving skills. They each made improvements in every role.

State Day

They looked around and couldn't believe what they saw. The place where they would be competing was set up like an arena.



They drove many matches and ended up in 2nd place in qualifiers. When they went to meet up with their alliance partner, they were so excited to see that it was another ALL GIRLS team! It was going to be Girl Powered Finals match.

It was very tense during the finals match and things didn't work out perfectly. They still felt so proud of what they had accomplished and wouldn't let one silly match get them

After finals, it was time for awards.
The team waited anxiously.

They didn't get called for a single award until...

Speaker: And the Excellence Award goes to 69315B the SMES Turkeys!



They got the Excellence Award, which means they got the highest ratings in all categories.

The team went to the middle of the room!

All of their hard work paid off!

On the way home from state, they started to brainstorm and tried to think of ways to get rings off of the floor.

Ivy: Guys. I was thinking about ways we could get the rings off the floor and I think we could do a needle intake.

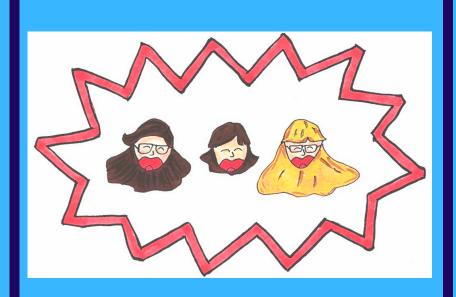
Others: That's an awesome idea!

While Ivy and Lily worked on building the new needle intake, Caroline was busy documenting in the notebook. Everyone discovered that Caroline was a talented artist.



They practiced the hardest they ever had. Not only driving and building, but preparing the STEM project, practicing what they would say to the judges, and much more. Finally they got to Kentucky and looked around the expo center.

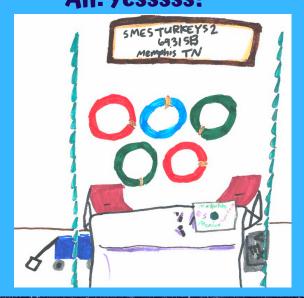
Caroline: WOW
Ivy: SO COOL!
(Lilly stands there wide eyed and open mouthed.)



They all run in to their pit area.

Mrs. Michael: Oh Hi! Isn't this place
so awesome?

All: Yessss!



They laughed, cried, and cheered.
They drove an uncountable number of matches. They met people from all around the world. They never made it to the finals, but they didn't fret. They celebrated their success and never stopped supporting each other through all the ups and downs.
They learned the true meaning of friendship while being on their Girl Powered team.

When they got back to school, they did a presentation to promote VEX robotics for the next school year.

Everyone in grades Kindergarten -4th Grade were there!

They wanted more girls to join the VEX team so they might have a chance of experiencing what they had experienced.

They talked about how VEX isn't about winning or losing, it's about learning with each other. It's about supporting each other through the failures and most of all, celebrating when things FINALLY go right.

They explained what they think being Girl Powered is all about.
Never giving up, encouraging others, and not being afraid to step outside your comfort zone.

One student was particularly inspired by the team's presentation.

Tybi: The VEX team has some real Girl Power like my idol, Marie Curie! She was the first woman to ever win a Nobel Prize, won top student at the age of 15, and discovered polonium and radium, two elements no one knew existed! She kept trying, even when she failed!



Fast Forward to the first VEX meeting of 2018

The team had inspired so many students at their presentation that they would have to add a new member to their group.

They were all anxiously waiting to see who it would be.

A cloaked figure walked through the doors of the science classroom...

Everyone: GASP!



Tybi with cloak at her feet: Hey guys!

Everyone
was so
excited that
Tybi was on
their team!

And so the new dream team began.

They welcomed their new teammate with open arms and worked harder than ever before!
They continue to inspire other people by being themselves and never giving up.

They hope to see the World stage again, but this time with their newest addition!

Three Girls, one Recess and some GREAT NEWS!

Team: SMES Turkeys

Number: 69315B

Team Members: Ivy Carls, Lilly Coggin, Tybi Haynes, Caroline Chandler

Credits: Canva