

## Girl Powered

Just the simple phrase, “Girl Powered” brings so much to mind. Having a diverse and inclusive learning environment is very important, especially in VEX Robotics, where new ideas are always needed. Girls can bring so many new ideas and theories into the VEX classroom. A lot of times girls can be put down or told they cannot participate in certain activities because they are weak or even dumb, but that’s not the case in VEX. In the robotics class, all students are equal, regardless of gender, and everyone works together.



Our class is very inclusive for girls and boys alike. We take the time to consider everyone’s ideas, and everyone has an important job. Nobody is left out, and it is a place where everyone is welcomed and has the jobs they prefer to help their teams succeed. Anyone can do any job they want, including building, programming, 3D printing, CAD Inventor, and notebook. It is important for girls to join activities like robotics to show that girls can do anything boys can. We are often thought of as incapable and sometimes even dumber than boys, which is not true and certainly not fair. In VEX we are all treated equally, no matter what. All members of our robotics class are able to use their skills and intelligence to help their team succeed.

Team 4073A has boys and girls doing whatever jobs will help our team succeed. We include everyone and make sure everybody has a useful job. We all propose ideas and are treated fairly. My team always makes sure we are being friendly and charismatic toward everyone, and we encourage boys and girls to join. Almost half of our robotics class are girls.



This is very inspiring to girls who may be too scared to join because they think it is a “boy activity”. Girl power is inspirational. Through the girl powered teams in robotics, girls can make an impact every day.

Most of the people on my team and in my class have learned to do different jobs. Some of our programmers learned to use Autodesk Inventor, and some of them learned how to build the robots. It is very important that everyone, including girls, tries different jobs until they find one they enjoy and can excel at. As

an example, I work on Autodesk Inventor as my main job, but before I chose that job, I learned programming and building. As a girl, I can say it is not always easy, and occasionally boys, even those in VEX, doubt the abilities of girls. But in the end, everyone has a job and we all make an impact. Having multiple jobs throughout the school year in robotics has helped everyone to contribute in different aspects, including myself. We are able to help everyone and propose more creative ideas. It is good for everyone to get a chance for every job, and for everyone to have a voice.



It is important for every classroom to be diverse and inclusive for everyone. In our robotics class, we don't judge based upon gender. Everybody understands that it's good to be diverse and have girls and boys in our class because it gives us new ideas, new perspectives, and different knowledge. Having new perspectives is important because it helps us succeed. We get more interesting and unique ideas for modifications and new additions to the robots, and some people are better at certain jobs than others. It is also much more fun getting to share the experiences in robotics with people who all think differently and have unique perspectives. Diversity encourages teamwork, and being a team is very important in VEX. Through teamwork, we have all grown closer as a class, and we are able to solve problems much quicker than we did in the beginning.

In the beginning of the school year, not many students knew each other, and everyone was very distant from the rest of the class. The girls stuck together and were less inclined to talk to the boys. Teamwork has helped all of the students on our team build stronger relationships and be much more successful, especially in our diverse environment. We work as a team no matter what, and even if we don't always win, our robots fall apart, or our programs don't function correctly, we still work together and our bond never falls apart. The girls and boys don't feel separated, and we are all a team of diverse students working together. Diversity is a key to success, and without it, my team would not learn as well, and it just would not be the same.

## Credits

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