

Girl Power Essay-BrainyBots 68031F

When our team hears the words Girl Powered we think of a team of hard working girls, trying their best, working together and learning through trial and error. Our team tries to live up to that as much as possible. At every practice we work together even if we have to split up and work on different jobs. Everyone on our team has different strengths and talents. We use everyone's unique abilities to press on and overcome our challenges. We believe that working together also means that you need to take everyone's ideas into consideration. If we are brainstorming, we make sure that everyone's ideas are considered and that one person doesn't shoot someone's idea down right away without letting them explain it. If the idea doesn't work, we POLITELY explain why. Then, we share with them why the other idea does work.

Our team's STEM role model is our robotics coach, Mrs. Keil who used to work at NASA. She is patient, helpful, and kind. If our team has any questions she has been very helpful answering them. Every practice she talks about how we should include all of our group members and make sure that they each have a job to do. She always encourages us to solve problems that come up and she makes sure that we are prepared to compete in meets. Since she has coached robotics for a while, she has lots of experience. She knows what we can do and what we can't. She recommends different things and helps us with our ideas. She also is very encouraging. If an idea doesn't work she encourages us to keep trying and to not give up.

Throughout our robotics season we have been exploring jobs and different responsibilities within our group. We have discovered jobs that we like by trial and error. We all enjoyed being a builder as we constructed our robot. We all tried writing in the journal and found out only two of us truly enjoyed it. When our robot was finished we all tried out driving and found out who likes to drive. We divided up the positions by asking each other, "who is interested in...". Our approach to discovering what jobs we liked was discovering as we go. Each week we've tried new things. We have learned that by stepping out of our comfort zone, we can find out we might like something that we never knew we liked.

Our team has discovered that when we have a diverse group of people our team has been stronger and has come up with a variety of ideas. One practice we were having trouble leveling out the arms of our robot so Olivia and Ofelia came up with a solution. A little bit later the arms were level. Without having a diverse group, we could not have come up with such a wonderful solution for solving our problem. Also, if there are more experienced people in your group then they have the knowledge to put creative or difficult ideas into action. The people that are new to robotics can come up with creative ideas and learn from more experienced people. Megan has a year more experience than others. She has been able to help steer our group through answering questions. She has also contributed to the team by coding and driving. Amaya has contributed by driving but found out she wasn't as interested and decided that being a scout was more interesting. Ofelia has tried out lots of things. She found out that she really enjoyed driving and recording progress in our notebook. She discovered that being a scout is not her passion. Olivia has found out that driving just isn't her thing, but she enjoys being the notebook manager.

We are successful because we have completed our goal. We've worked hard, tried our best and learned a lot along the way!

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