



Girl Powered

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Q.1 What does Girl Powered mean? How is it reflected in our team's approach?

Girl Powered to me means a girl that brings focus, determination, hard work, and good team work. My team, which has one girl and two boys, is a good example of how having both boys and girls can work well. I help my team stay focused, organized and make sure we all practise driving and other skills. My Girl Power is to encourage our team to always keep trying even in the hard times. I help balance my teammates, who are boys, with a different approach to working together and staying focused. They ask me what I think and how we should do things and we all work together to make the best robot we can.

Q.2 How does your team recruit girls?

We have girl instructors and lots of girls that do robotics at my school. My instructors encouraged the girls and boys to come and do it the same way. My kindergarten teacher is one of the instructors and she told me about robotics and she inspired me and got me interested in robotics. I looked forward to joining robotics for 3 more years. She always let me stop by and watch the older kids and encouraged me. They say "Come and do it, it's a lot of fun!" They also say "It has technology puzzles that you figure out, and building challenges, and teamwork with friends." Our school also does events where they bring out the robotics and show people and let others drive them and learn about the program.

Q.3 Do team members try different roles, what do they learn?

My team tries a lot of different roles on the team like driving, building, and programming. We found who is the best at driving, who is better at building, and who does best at programming. So everybody does what they are best at but we can all help each other. We can also do the other person's job if they are not here. We all try to learn and get better even at the jobs that are not our favorites. It helps us understand what the other person is wanting to do and how we can help each other.

Q.4 How do you believe having different ideas change your design, how your team gets along, and your team's ability to succeed?

It changes our robot a lot and sometimes even other people's ideas get changed after talking about it.. We always pick good parts out of everybody's ideas and we put it on our robot. It helps get everybody's ideas on the robot so nobody is left out. It also helps us get a good strong, sturdy robot that everybody likes and helped to make as a team. Each of us have different strengths and things we are good at.

Q.5 Who is your stem role model and why?Does this person inspire you to have a more inclusive team or program and how?

Katherine Johnson was an American mathematician who worked for NASA. I learned about her by looking up women in STEM. When talking about her, my aunt told me there was a movie made about her too. She helped figure out problems by using computers with the NASA team. She inspires me and my team to always keep trying to make our programming and driving better. We try to include everyone as much as we can. If someone asks a question we answer them and tell them why we did that thing, depending on their question. Katherine Johnson helped make women a part of the team at NASA. She showed that women can work with computers too. I hope to work with computers for as long as she did.