

Workshop Feedback 2017:

What Worked Well:

- Instructors phrased information in a way that girls could understand it
- Workshop activity was really fun and interactive
- Instructor managed time well and kept activities moving along
- Girls loved that the activity was a challenge they had to solve
- Instructors and volunteers were clear and knowledgeable
- While girls waited for their turn, girls played relevant learning games to fill time
- Instructors were playful and fun to be around
- Rotating activities of small groups reduced 'cliques' of girls
- Girls dissected brains and had fun doing something 'gross'
- Girls climbed trees and learned to tie knots
- Instructions were written on the board for girls to follow
- Girls were interested in hearing about instructor's background
- Girls did yoga and learned how their own brain deals with stress and anxiety.
- There were lots of volunteers on hand to help girls with complex coding challenges.
- Girls got to measure and mix ingredients themselves
- Girls mixed and combined ingredients of recipes as they learned the science of herbal skin care products.
- Girls practiced using a pipette to change color of liquids. They commented that they felt like real scientists.
- Instructors provided 'brain fun facts' throughout activity to deepen learning.
- Girls built solar ovens and melted s'mores to learn about renewable energy.
- Neuron relay race was a great way to incorporate moving and fun into instruction.
- Instructor had everything ready and organized before girls arrived.

What Didn't Work So Well:

- Girls struggled with challenging math that was over their heads
- Instructors experienced difficulties with technology throughout the session
- Too much lecture and not enough doing
- Instructions were unclear so girls got frustrated
- Instructor talked a lot at the beginning of the session
- Lecture was too advanced and it seemed that instructor over-estimated girls' background knowledge.
- Girls didn't understand the 'point' of the activity. How do scientists use this information in the real world?
- Written instructions used scientific terms and wording that the girls did not understand.
- Instructor seemed disorganized and unprepared
- The session ended really early
- The main activity was very repetitive, girls got bored
- The girls got to play a lot but there didn't seem to be much STEM being learned
- Instructors demonstrated for a very long time in front of group, but girls didn't get a chance to try it out.
- The workshop was different than what the title suggested so girls were confused.
- A quick wrap up at the end could have brought the 'point' home.
- Girls commented that the workshop presenter seemed disorganized
- It would have been helpful if instructor explained how much time they would be doing each activity. Girls tend to think they will be doing an activity "forever".

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