

## Workshop Feedback from Summer Staff 2016:

### Positives of workshops:

- Girls got messy with oobleck and silly putty! Got to act like kids and get silly
- Girls got to work independently
- Girls loved working with microscopes
- Instructors made great connection between products girls use and their health. Awesome!
- Girls got to hold birds! So neat.
- Girls got to meet cows and learn about how poop can be formed into energy. Neat!
- Instructors planned lots of ways for girls to learn concepts that got them moving around and using their bodies.
- Instructors minimized lecturing in place of hands on and active 'acting out' of concepts. This helped the girls stay engaged as they learned.
- Girls got to taste different types of plants
- Girls loved stripping and bagging different types of plants for drying. Really fun and active.
- Girls loved playing jeopardy to learn and also to review concepts
- Girls got to dissect brains and try something gross but really cool
- Instructors provided 'brain fun facts' throughout the workshop.
- Neuron relay race was a great way to make learning the concept interactive and fun using movement
- Staff was playful and fun to be around
- Girls got to look at breast tissue samples under a microscope and guess what stage of development they were in. neat challenge.
- Girls got to choose and design their own experiment, which gave them independence
- Girls got to make team names for their group, which helped them personalize their workshop experience and put their own 'style and personality' into it.
- The instructors and activities were well organized and fun
- Girls rotated from station to station led by instructors
- Girls got to do lots of problem solving and teamwork which kept them engaged
- Instructor clearly explained complex materials and connected activities to real life
- Girls got to dissect bees and test for disease. There was a clear connection to real world problem!
- Instructor jumped right into activity to engage girls right away!
- Girls got to build bridges, which was super hands on and creative
- Girls got to learn about pressure and stresses by breaking their bridges. Fun!
- Girls got to trace their shadows over time as a way to actually SEE the movement of the sun.
- Girls got to visit the sun wheel to learn about the seasons
- Girls got to look at the sun through a telescope!
- Girls got to solve a case by gathering data and analyzing clues. Really independent and engaging. Fun!
- Girls got to climb trees which was really active!
- Girls got to learn how to tie knots which was neat and directly related to climbing trees
- Instructor really friendly and patient

Ways for Instructors to improve workshops for next year:

- Girls commented that overall workshop lacked organization and structure
- There was too much talking and standing, so the girls got bored and antsy by the end
- Instructor could have covered the material in interactive ways rather than explaining with just words about the scientific concept
- There could have been a stronger connection between the overall concept and the theme of the workshop
- A scavenger hunt could have helped girls make observations rather than instructor pointing out differences in structure of different organisms.
  
- Girls would have been more engaged if they had been told the purpose of workshop right away
- Girls would have been more engaged if instructor explained how each activity was connected to overall concept of workshop. Explain “what’s the point” along the way.
- How was the workshop connected to real life?
- Too much lecture and not enough hands on
- Too much lecture and no hands on!
- Girls wore lab coats but didn’t do experiments, which frustrated the girls
- At the end of workshop, several girls wondered how title of workshop connected to what they did.
- Girls did complex equations but they were unclear why they were doing them.
- Workshop needed more hands on activities if it was going to be so many days
- Would it be possible for the workshop leader to build in more activities for the girls to be independent?
- Since girls were antsy, 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”.