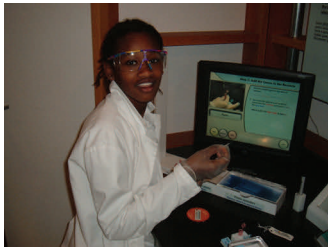


All STARS (Sports, Technology, Academics, Responsibility, Sisterhood) Program: *Empowering middle school girls through technology and leadership!*

The **All STARS Program (grades 6-8)** is a daily hands-on after-school program serving more than 130 middle school girls annually. The program empowers girls to develop their capabilities through technology literacy, academic enrichment, career exploration, leadership, fitness and team building activities. These experiences are achieved in part through the innovative and intensive Build IT (Girls Building Information Technology Fluency Through Design) curriculum, which is unique to this program. The program fosters girls' interest in non-traditional careers in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM), providing them with the confidence, skills and can-do attitude to achieve success. In addition to the Build IT curriculum, girls visit a variety of workplaces and experience real life, high-tech environments.

Why girls need All STARS: The middle school period is one



when girls make critical choices about their identity and their perceived abilities. These choices will shape their future academic and career paths. Unfortunately, studies show that middle school is when girls start to lose interest and

doubt their abilities in STEM-related endeavors and this results in dramatic gender differences in such fields in the workplace. Recent workforce data indicates that women comprise just over 20% of the technology workforce, and among architecture and engineering professionals, women are even less well represented at 14.5% of the workforce.

Objectives for 2011-2012:

- **Self Confidence:** Girls will gain confidence in themselves as leaders and learners.
- **Healthy Choices:** Girls will build interest in physical activity and knowledge of healthy behaviors.
- **Relationships:** Girls will form positive relationships with peers and adults.
- **Academic Achievement and Enrichment:** Girls will build interest in technology and develop academic skills, particularly in STEM fields.

Success! Evaluation Results from the 2009-2010 school year:

- ⇒ After participating in the program, girls come to see IT jobs as collaborative, fun, and intellectually stimulating, changing their perceptions by a significant 8-13 %.
- ⇒ After two years in the program, Build IT participants demonstrate a significant 11% increase in overall computer use and are 20% to 23% more likely to teach others about computers and technology than their non-Build IT counterparts in the comparison group.
- ⇒ Build IT participants also demonstrate growing interests in upper-level high school mathematics (16.7-percentage point increase for 9th grade math, and 8.4-percentage point increase for 10th grade math).

Locations offered: Coliseum College Prep Academy (CCPA), Roots International Academy, Alliance Academy Middle School, Elmhurst College Preparatory Middle School, and ASCEND School in East Oakland, and John Muir Middle School in San Leandro.

Build IT Curriculum

Girls Building Information Technology Fluency Through Design

- **Unit 1: Redesigning Your World.** Girls explore the design world through hands-on activities.
- **Unit 2: Design Online: Communication Tools and the Internet.** Girls are introduced to the Internet and Internet-based communication and collaboration tools.
- **Unit 3: Redesigning the Web.** Girls work individually and in teams to apply their design skills to the development of web pages and web-based communications tools.
- **Unit 4: Design in Networked Technologies.** Girls participate in activities that encourage their exploration of networks and network applications, and explore the network hardware and connections (i.e. cell phones and Bluetooth).
- **Unit 5: Collaborative Game Design & Troubleshooting.** Girls experience the participatory design process as they work in teams to design a game for younger girls in Girls Inc. programs.
- **Unit 6: Joining a Design Team.** In teams, girls apply their design skills to the development of web pages for a specific client.

**girls
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**Girls Incorporated®
of Alameda County**

Inspiring all girls to be strong, smart, and boldSM

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