

Dear Healdsburg Branch,

I give you my thanks for sponsoring me, and giving me this amazing opportunity to attend Tech Trek at Sonoma State University. I know that this experience will stick with me through adulthood and beyond. The things I learned, and the experiences I gained here have taught me so much, I became even more inspired to pursue a career in STEM, especially after hearing from women with STEM related careers. I am certain that I have become more independent as I explored the life of a freshmen in collage. On my first day here, I enjoyed eating breakfast, lunch and dinner with my roommates, especially because I had a variety of options to choose from. When I first heard that we were going to use solder and a hot soldering tool in order to melt the solder and built the jiggy bot, I was a bit nervous and didn't want to give it a try because I thought that I would end up burning myself, but then, I gave it a try and discovered that I was good at soldering because I had discovered a new technique. After I had a good technique, I was having lots of fun, especially because I had new friends, and we were helping each other out. I also learned how to code my own app using block coding that can be used to roll a digital die, as well as how to solve a maze via coding commands. I enjoyed the workshops and took a liking to coding and soldering. In my core class, which was Botany, we got to do a hands on experiment about photosynthesis, as well as learning the basics about a plant, along with drawing and writing. I felt very relaxed while I was writing and drawing, and I learned a lot when we were performing the photosynthesis experiment. Every day I learned something new, for example, when we had a presentation about structural Engineering, I learned about the main categories, the steps that are done when designing a building, as well as how to make our structures more sturdy and stable. This experience has certainly been a life changer for me, and I once again thank you for offering me this opportunity, I hope to one day come back here as a junior counselor.

—Sincerely, Bryanna