

MATHLETES

Daily Parent Newsletter

August 1, 2019

Mathletes Summer Camp

The FGCU Mathletes summer camp is a program for bright and talented middle school students interested in investigating concepts in mathematics that are not usually introduced at the middle school level. The program focuses on improving problem-solving abilities and logical reasoning, enhancing communication and collaboration skills and strengthening interest in mathematics and STEM related fields.

Announcements

- Please have the campers wear their shirts on tomorrow.
- We would like to invite all parents and family guests to the graduate ceremony which will be held from 3:15—4:00 pm in room Seidler 220.
- Students are unable to come back for lost items if left behind on today, please ensure all lunchboxes water bottles, and anything else of value is taken home with them.
- The updated program schedule is available on the website: <https://www.fgcu.edu/cas/departments/math/mathletes/>
- The daily photo gallery is available on [FGCU Mathletes Facebook page](#).

“S.T.E.M. is our future, we need to immerse ourselves in the field to grow.”

-Camper

“Having fun while learning about S.T.E.M is a lot of fun

- Camper



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Guest speakers Mrs. Campbell and Mr. Campbell

Salt Water Powers Car? Alternative Energy at its Best

During their time with Mrs. Campbell and Mr. Campbell (chemistry professors at FGCU) the students explored concepts of balancing equations, finding concentrations, measuring mass, volume, current, and voltage as well as an introduction into finding molarity. They explored all of these concepts through testing a cell powered car with different concentrations of salt water. These cars have a salt water battery, and when salt water is added to the battery this allowed the current to flow and the car to move. The students produced 5 different concentrations of salt water, 4%, 8%, 12%, 16%, and 20%. They tested all five of the concentrations in their car by measuring the voltage, current, and then finally timing how fast the car made it down the track. They found that the car with the highest concentration of salt water went the quickest. In the wrap up discussion Mr. and Mrs. Campbell explained that the reason the 20% concentration car went the fastest is because it has the most salt ions.

Get to Know Our Staff:

Alyson Baumgardner

Alyson Baumgardner is an undergraduate student at Florida Gulf Coast University seeking a Bachelor of Science in Mathematics. She enjoys working with younger students to cultivate a desire to learn more, and she has served as a reading mentor with the Teen Trendsetters program from the Barbara Bush Foundation. Alyson works part-time at a running store and volunteers with her church as a co-leader of a high school Bible study and summer camp counselor. In her spare time, she enjoys going to the beach with friends and running to relax from the business of life.



Going Nuts and Bolts over the EV3 Robot

Today the students had the chance to program lego robots called the EV3 Mindstorm. Once the activity began the students had to go through complete 5 difficult challenges to complete the activity. Even though the challenges were complex, the students were able to think their way through all of them! Some of these challenges include using a color sensor to make the robot stop on the color red or wiggle between a black and white line, use an ultrasound sensor to maneuver around obstacles, and much more. Not only were the task given to them high in difficulty, but they also were competing with other groups! At the end of all their activities they had to complete a final challenge by making their robot go through a maze with a lot of twists and turns as well as follow a black line around an obstacle. The winners for session 1 are Paul Cimarusti, Freddy (Che) Garrisons-Giambo, and Nathaniel Caves. The winners for session 2 are Jiya Naik, Kiera, Conrey, and Kai West. After the activity was done many of the students had a newfound respect for programing and are able to see the real life implications of how to use it in real life. We hoped that this activity inspired our students to adventure the ever-expanding field of technology and engineering.



Predicting Probabilities, With a Treat Attached

Today the students were able to through an activity about probability created by Tim Nail. But before the learning was able to take place we had played a game! Students had to line up 20 cubes under the numbers 1-12 in any amount they would like. Then the instructor rolled a pair of dice which would give a number and if you have a cube over that number you got to take the cube off that number and the group who was able to get all their cubes off the numbers wins. After the riveting activity the instructor was able to explain what the best set up of cube of the biggest probability of winning was and students were able to figure out why number such as 6 and 7 were called more on compared to numbers such as 1 and 12. After learning a bit about probability Alyson Baumgardner had taken out a jar of jelly beans and asked the students to use the power of probability to guess how many jellybeans were in the jar and students were

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Florida Gulf Coast University
10501 FGCU Blvd S
Fort Myers, FL 33965

Contact Us

Give us a call for more information about our services and products

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Fort Myers, FL 33965

mathletes@fgcu.edu

Visit us on the web at

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