

Introduction to the Girls in Science Curriculum

The *Girls in Science* program empowered the girls to excel in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) and encouraged the girls to think about what their future may hold for them. During the one-week camp, the girls attended a variety of classes taught by college professors and researchers that allowed them to gain confidence both inside and outside of the classroom. The program was about discovering, creating, and solving mysteries that girls are good at and the classes the girls attended helped them to accomplish this goal. The interactive classes provided a hands-on working environment in which the girls worked independently or cooperatively with other girls exploring the worlds of STEM careers, and how much fun these challenging and male-dominated subjects can actually be in a classroom environment that they are comfortable in; a safe place.

The lesson plans present the diverse classes that our participating girls had the opportunity to attend during summer camp. These lesson plans include medical, physical and social science concepts to pique the interest and curiosity of young girls to enter STEM careers. Specific lessons may be adapted for a variety of grades. The *Girls in Science* program had the unique opportunity of using the University of Kentucky facilities and resources, which are available in your community. We suggest including Health Departments, area health education centers, universities and colleges, health practitioners, museums and businesses.