

## The Riveters (HS-329)

***Describe how your team is giving back to the community and why do you think it is important?***

Helping the community is very important to our team, so we decided to share the things we have done through the SeaPerch program and through our Experimental Science class. We contacted six teachers, and four of them responded: two 2nd grade teachers, one 5th grade teacher, and one middle school teacher. We wanted to teach their students about our ROV design process and challenges, and also about future STEAM/ engineering opportunities. We presented the ROV presentation that got us to Internationals, and we talked about the Experimental Science class we are taking that has allowed us to participate in various science competitions, including SeaPerch, Science Olympiad, Ocean Bowl, BEST Robotics and a class trebuchet competition. Our goal was to get these students excited about STEAM and engineering opportunities and let them know about things they can do in the future. With each class, we gave our presentation, talked about STEAM opportunities, and opened it up to any questions they had for us. To give them hands on experience, we made kits of PVC (utilizing scraps from past years) to give one of the 2nd grade classes an exciting, hands-on activity to get their engineering and innovating brains going. They had about 5 minutes to use the PVC parts to build something and then present to us what they built and what it does. Their imaginations ran wild! One group made a “camera” that could measure your age. Another group made a fishing contraption that had net cannons. The other two groups modeled their creations after our team’s ROV with some important modifications. In a perfect world with plenty of time and no Covid-19 restrictions, we would have loved to do the hands-on activity with all of the classes! In the end, we got to virtually join the four classes for about 30 minutes over April 22nd and April 26th. It was a very rewarding experience worth all the time and effort we put into it. Hopefully we can continue this idea into future years through our Science National Honor Society so we can reach all sorts of younger students and get them excited about STEAM!

***Supporting Resources:***

<https://www.santarosa.k12.fl.us/>

