

STEM-Up Leadership (HS-344)

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

The STEM-UP program for the 2020-2021 academic year provided students across the greater Philadelphia area with the opportunity to participate in naval engineering throughout the SeaPerch competition. The program engaged STEM-interested students from all throughout the community to be innovative and tackle real-world issues. Featuring students from different backgrounds, schools, and grades, our team combines a wide set of skills and knowledge. Students that would have never had the chance to interact otherwise bonded over a common goal of tackling the environmental crisis that our world faces. Over the course of the year, we, the STEM-UP team, have grown into a tight-knit community. We got to know each other and inspire each other. This experience has taught us that friendship and meaningful connections can be created with people even if we seem different at the surface level. As a collective we take this newly gained perspective and carry it in every aspect of our lives and make an effort to engage with other peers, hoping that one individual at the time we can create a more human and welcoming community. As a team we decided to use our knowledge to tackle real-world issues, our “real-world innovation” has focused on monitoring the water content of the Philadelphia rivers. We have shared our project and passion on social media notably on our Instagram page. Our objective by sharing infographics on the platform and the progress on the project is to draw in engagement from the local community whose livelihood is inextricably dependent on the rivers’. Our journey can be followed @stemuptemple.

SeaPerch

[see purch]

noun, verb.

1. any of various sea basses (family Serranidae)
2. a competition of aquatic engineering

1. to develop skills in aquatic engineering
2. to learn how to better your community's water

see also: RoboNation, SeaGlide, environmentalist