

GirlTREC



MarTREC hosted thirty-five fifth and sixth grade girls in July at our new GirlTREC summer camp. The camp focused on hands-on activities related to transportation engineering from roads to rail to waterways and was designed to build courage and interest towards studying STEM fields and considering a career in the transportation industry.

Our interactive activities were taught by faculty from the University of Arkansas' civil and industrial engineering departments. Activities included learning about abutment design in bridge construction with Dr. Michelle Bernhardt, examining social media data during a disaster response with Dr. Ashlea Milburn, designing traffic control systems with Dr. Sarah Hernandez, handling risk and uncertainty with Dr. Sarah Nurre and Dr. Shengfan Zhang, examining lock and dam operations with Dr. Heather Nachtmann, and structural design analysis with Dr. Gary Prinz.

The students also took a field trip to Ozark-Jetta Taylor Lock and Dam #12. Guided by Lock Master Kevin Dunn, the girls learned about water safety, how the lock allows the vessels to pass through, and the economics behind barge travel. The campers even got to ride on an opening lock gate!