



Inspiring our future workforce

Girls in Hi-Tech

7th February 2019

Student and Business Evaluation

"There are so many job options available for just one company and you don't need to be the most technical person or be the best with computers"

Student quote

Event Summary

This programme is designed to inspire and motivate female students to consider careers within Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths (STEM) organisations. Traditionally girls do not consider entering these sectors, even though they have the skills and qualities that are needed. This programme is a series of hands-on challenges delivered by 3 different high technology businesses and supported by Ambassadors from these organisations. It aims to give girls the opportunity to experience the types of roles that are available within these types of organisations and to hear first-hand from female business ambassadors about why careers in these sectors are good.

Girls from Year 8 participated in this challenge.

Objectives of The Nav People Challenge

- To raise awareness of the work that is done at The Nav People, the process involved and the time it takes to be successful.
- To introduce the girls to the variety of roles that there are in the sector.
- To encourage the girls to realise that they could be successful in this sector.

Challenge details

In mixed ability groups, the girls were given a scenario where they had to categorise and add some items to the stock system at Primark.

They had to setup a range of attributes against certain items in order to distinguish them, e.g. colour, size, style, logo, etc.

Each of the teams were given some items and asked to distinguish them from one another. They were then given instructions on how to add these fields into the stock system, along with a couple of follow-up code related tasks depending how quickly the teams completed the first task. There were prizes for different challenges set.

Summary of Impact of Event

The analysis of the evaluation data from the students shows clearly the beneficial impact.

- All of the girls involved said that they had been motivated and inspired by the challenge.
- All of the girls improved their view of doing these kinds of jobs.
- 96% of the girls said that they would enjoy doing these kinds of jobs.

The format for this event means that it is an effective way for students to engage directly with hi-tech sector business people in a relatable task to this sector, in a focused and specific way.

Student Evaluation (27 responses)

Have you been inspired and motivated by this challenge?

100% of the students said “yes”.

If you said “Yes”, why?

- There are so many job options available for just one company and you don't need to be the most technical person or be the best with computers.
- It shows me all the different aspects of STEM and how females have the same choices as males.
- The activities were engaging and well explained, everyone was supportive and kind which made it enjoyable. I would like to work in a place like this.
- Because it has taught me how to make my own products and given me a better understanding of tech.
- Because I have learnt how it works and how fun it could be.
- It lets me think more about the tech to help but also that girls can do the same things as boys can.
- Because it makes me feel girls can do it and jobs they don't usually do.
- Because I liked seeing how much money you could possibly get by doing a certain job.
- It shows that women can do anything.
- It will encourage me to go for STEM jobs.
- It was good to do something different.
- Because I didn't know what went into designing a product and a website.
- I've been motivated by it because of the computers, I understand it and I found it good that we got to see behind the screens.
- I've been motivated about computers, I found it cool that we got to see behind the website.
- I have been really enthused by the workshop today it was really cool.
- It helped me think outside of the box and look at different jobs.
- It showed me that coding is fun.
- Because you can be anything you want in the Tech industry.
- Challenging but fun.
- I have learnt to code.
- It has inspired me to do this job, it was really fun learning about this.

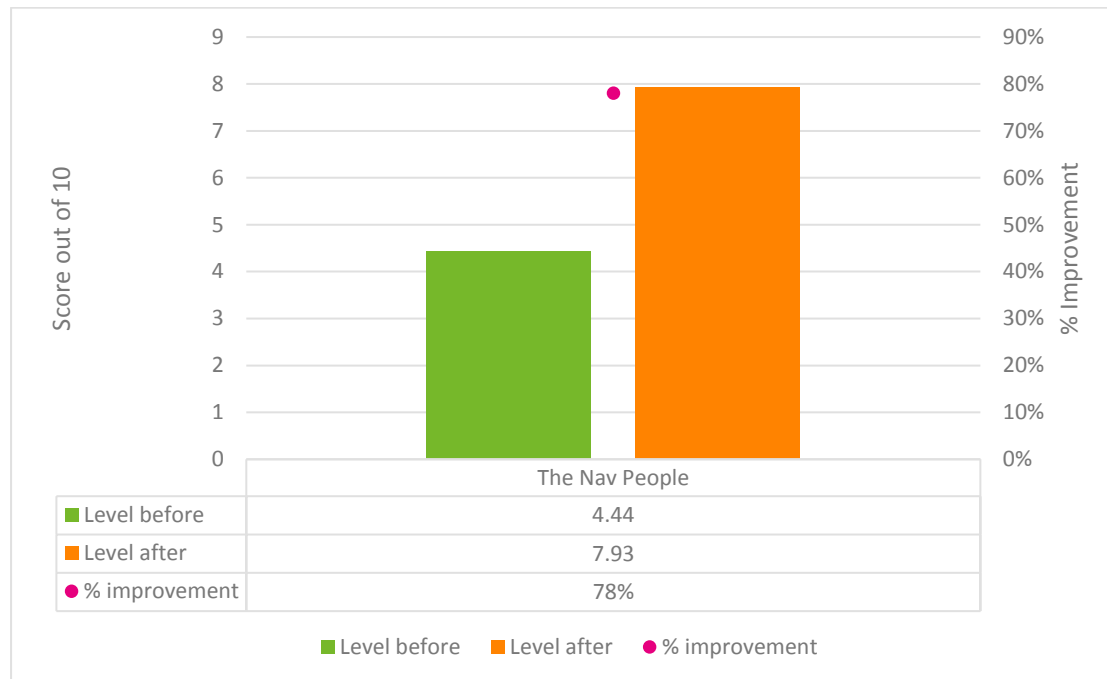
Had you considered this career path before today's event?

(1= not at all/low, 10 = completely/high)

Average score = **4.6/10**

How much do you think you would enjoy doing jobs like these?

Score out of 10, where 1 = would not enjoy and 10 = would very much enjoy



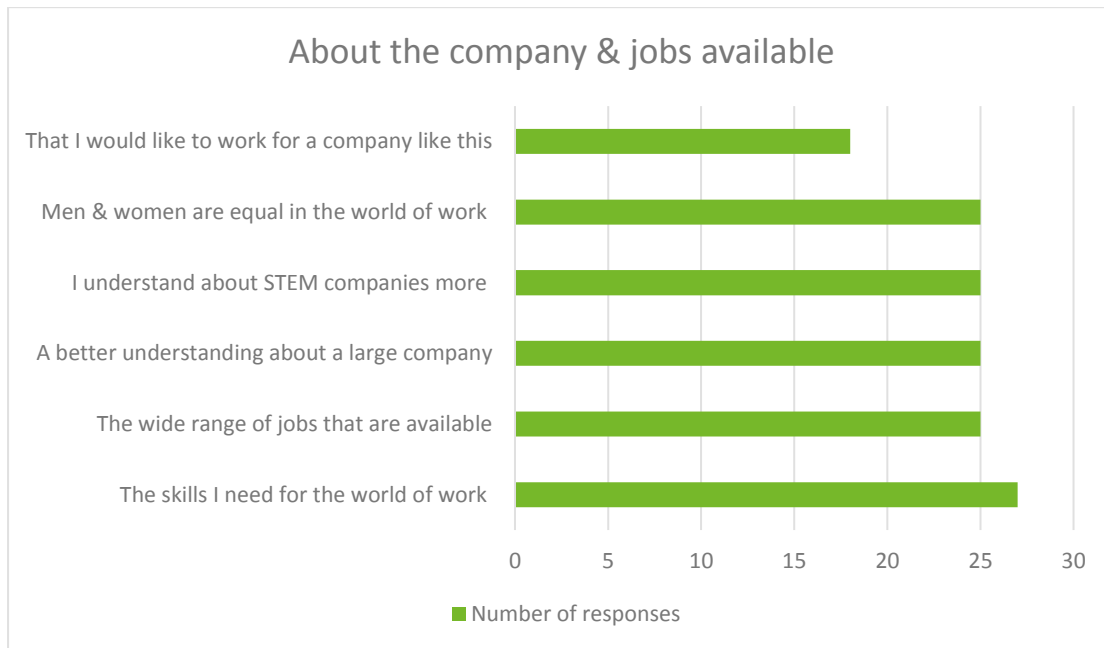
All students increased their view of enjoying a job like this and 96% of students said their enjoyment level was a 6 or above out of 10.

What one thing will you take away from today's challenge?

- There are many jobs in just one company and there are lots of opportunities.
- I have learnt that there are many well paid jobs in the world and that I have high opportunities in life.
- Anyone can work in a STEM job and there are many more than I thought.
- Coding and that jobs have something for different talents of STEM, you can have so much fun too!
- How companies make their products.
- How to use the computers in the way techies do.
- How to make a product that you can sell.
- What went into designing a website.
- I enjoyed the designing.
- That anyone can do anything if they try.
- That anyone can do anything if you have commitment.
- That I can do anything in STEM.
- You need to work hard, so that you can have a good job.
- To keep calm under timed conditions and to be precise when coding.
- To keep calm, whilst under pressure.
- I learnt that you have to be very specific with everything you write.

What is the main thing that you have learnt from your challenge?





Selection of quotes from the day

- It has been really fun and a great experience, I have seen how many jobs everyone can have. I realised I would like a job like the ones I saw today.
- I found the experience inspirational and engaging.
- It was extremely educational and fun, I learnt a lot! Thank you.
- It was very enjoyable and I learnt many things. I learnt a lot about STEM.
- It was a fun way of learning how tech works.
- It's good to understand that there are jobs in STEM for girls.
- Great – it was interesting and it could benefit my life.
- A lot of experience is needed, we had fun and it was very interesting.
- A brilliant workshop, great work experience.
- An incredible opportunity to learn about what work in this industry would do.
- It was inspiring to understand the website.
- It was very interesting as I did not know about what went on a website.
- It was a good experience to be able to try new things.
- It was a really inspiring lesson and I know now there are more roles in STEM for girls.
- It was fun and I now understand a bit more about STEM and The Nav People.
- It was eye-opening and enjoyable.
- It was amazing, I really felt I have expanded my knowledge.
- Today has been educational, competitive and great fun.

Business Volunteer Evaluations (7 responses)

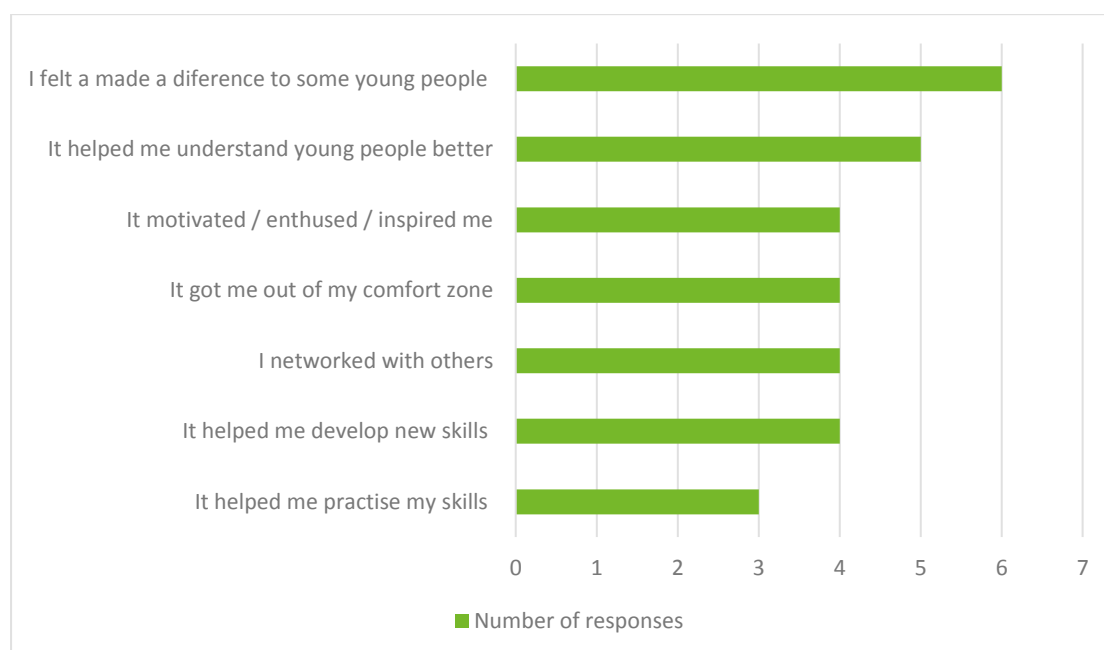
How much did the students benefit from today's event?

Average score = 7.8/10

Biggest learning point for students

- That not all careers in tech need to be techy.
- When they saw the attributes/field that they had added on screen.
- Different roles within the industry, coding is fun!
- Hopefully understanding what kind of roles are available in the tech industries and what coding is.
- Understanding the different roles in tech.
- An insight into a particular role within a tech industry, to see what is available at a software company like the Nav people.
- The practical element of the task offers a hands-on learning experience, getting students to guess what role we do, is an eye-opener.

What benefit did you get out of helping today?



Would you take part in this event again?

100% of business volunteers and education providers said "yes".

Quotes from business volunteers and education providers for the day

- Well organised and a nice group of young people.
- Really fun day, cannot wait to do it again.
- Great event, really enjoyed it, good class sizes.
- I met a person on work experience, he's a great guy with a lot to offer and gave me support and guidance on how we in business can interact with schools.

- Fun, exciting day introducing young people to the world of tech and busting the myths that it's all geeky peeps!
- It was fun seeing the girls get competitive, I think some will now consider going into programming.
- It's great to be a part of a challenge which inspires students to push their preconceptions.
- This was a really great event - wonderful to encourage young girls into the world of tech and get them to broaden their horizons.
- Even if one student now considers a tech career, it's a success.

Comments or suggestions for improvement of the day

- We could access the WIFI but we couldn't connect to our work's VPN as the school has blocked access to VPNs, we had to use our mobiles to get WIFI, which was very slow.