



## We Need More Girl Engineers – Children's Technology Workshop Can Help

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This newsletter, we hope, gives you some useful information to help you understand Children's Technology Workshop and the opportunity it represents in the educational services franchise business space. The after-school enrichment market continues to grow at a dramatic pace and we are part of it. So please enjoy and let us know what other topics you would like us to discuss.

### About Us

At CTWorkshop creative thinking is a child's greatest asset. Since 1997 we've delivered hi-tech programs enabling children to enhance their innate creativity. We facilitate and extend a child's awesome natural ability to learn.

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Look at the picture on this page. It shows girls working with LEGO®, building robots, something they might do if they were engineers. We hope this is the wave of the future because today women represent only 9% of the total engineering workforce in the United States. And yet the young girls in this picture are fascinated with the workings of technology.

What changes when girls get into higher education? Why aren't there more girl engineers and girl scientists? Is it that math and science subjects are just not the stuff girls like?



Tricia Berry is the Director of The Women in Engineering Program at the University of Texas at Austin. She writes: "I chose engineering because I saw it as a good way to keep progressing in math and science and as a way to head to medical school. I wanted to go into something impressive – something that people would look at as challenging and for 'smart people.'

I ended up loving engineering and never went to medical school....and engineering is impressive! I love the challenge. I love being able to look at a problem and saying, 'I can figure that out!' I may not know how, but I know that I can figure it out by working with others, researching it in books or on the Web, or perhaps even thinking about it a while myself. I have always loved mystery books and puzzles and engineering is like doing these all of the time. I also love it when I tell people I'm an engineer and they say, 'Wow!'" (Check out [www.engineergirl.org](http://www.engineergirl.org) for lots of stories like this.)

Children's Technology Workshop introduces, through its adventure-based learning, an opportunity for girls and boys to discover the inner engineer in them. Building and programming LEGO robots, using a bridge-building simulator, designing video games, creating special visual effects for animation and video production are among the many wonderful applications and projects that can plant the learning seeds that will produce a future crop of engineers and scientists. A final word from Tricia Berry, "Take all the math and science classes you can. You don't have to love all your classes, but you do need to take them so you're prepared for college....Find a summer camp or other program that can help you explore all that engineering has to offer. Know that with an engineering degree, you save lives, positively impact the environment, and make the world a better place now and for the future."