

2011

Conference Highlights

- 182 girls attended. 10 schools in southeast Colorado represented
- 25% 8th graders, 38% 7th graders, 37% 6th graders
- 51% White, 38% Hispanic, 11% Other
- Girls were put into 20 teams—led by OJC coeds.
- 20 different careers were presented with hands-on opportunities by 60 presenters
- Linda Groat, Colorado Division of Wildlife, led Project WILD activities in the afternoon.
- Approximately 40 Air Force Academy Cadets who served as team leaders, Project Wild volunteers and presented the physic workshop.
- 64% considering taking more math and science classes in high school
- 22 parents, teachers, and counselors attended the Adult Session-*Goal Setting for Girls*.
- Dr. Mandi Sinclair, a Las Animas High School graduate, was the keynote speaker. She has her bachelor's degree from Adams State College, master's degree from San Jose State University and Doctorate in Exercise Science from Oklahoma State University. She currently teaches athletic training at the University of Colorado at Colorado Springs, where she works primarily with graduate students.
- The conference is organized by an all-volunteer staff of women from the business community and Otero Junior College.



"The best day of my life so far."

**Next Conference Date
March 3, 2012**



Hosted at: Otero Junior College
1802 Colorado Ave.
La Junta, CO 81050
Phone: 719-384-6857
Fax: 719-384-6917

<http://www.ojc.edu/girlsinthemiddle.aspx>



Girls in the Middle

Climbing toward
CONFIDENCE



GIRLS ROCK



"I had an awesome day with learning new things!"

**2011
Conference Summary
March 5, 2011**

What is the Girls in the Middle Conference?

The goal of the *Girls in the Middle* Conference is to encourage girls in 6th, 7th and 8th grades to continue studying math, science, and technology and to consider careers in the math, science, engineering and technology fields.

The registration fee for the girls to attend the conference is \$5. This includes the conference, continental breakfast, lunch, and a T-shirt.

Thanks to the generous support from our sponsors we have been able to keep the cost of the conference low. The expected outcomes for the young women attending the Conference are:

- Consider taking more math and science classes
- Learn about new career opportunities
- Start making plans for high school and beyond
- Create professional mentoring role models in the community



"My experience today was so interesting. Very enjoyable! It also brought to my attention that there are actually some fun jobs, including technology. "

2011 Workshops

Each workshop provided hands-on activities for participants to experience and develop a better understanding of the following careers:

- Architect
- Astronomy
- Dentistry
- Digital Media
- ER Nursing
- Forestry
- Information Technology
- Massage Therapy
- Math & Problem Solving
- Nursing Simulation
- Physical Therapy
- Physician
- Physics
- Pilot
- Radiology
- SolidWorks/ Mechanical Graphic & Design
- Sports Medicine
- Surgical Tech
- System Analysis
- Veterinary Science



Project WILD with Colorado Division of Wildlife Presented by Linda Groat

- Tree Factor
- Rock Cycle
- Trees for Many Reasons
- Which Rock Am I?
- Riparian Retreat
- Habitat Lap Sit
- Sand Density/Magnetic Sand
- Sand Filters/Sand Grains
- Career Critters
- Topographic Maps

2011 Sponsors

Thanks to the generous sponsorship of the following businesses and organizations for making it possible to provide this unique learning opportunity to middle school girls at a minimal cost.

A Special Thanks to: Gold Level Sponsors:

Arkansas Valley Regional Medical Center
Colorado School of Mines
Otero Junior College
San Diego Zoo Global-Robert Erhardt & Herb Erb
STEM Grant
United States Air Force Academy- Dr. Mauk and Cadets

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The Sign Shop

Bronze Level Sponsors:

Colorado Workforce Center
CSU-Pueblo
Gobin's Office Supply
Las Animas Women's Civic Club
Steven Kalaher



"I had so much fun! I loved coming here and meeting new friends."