

MAKING A DIFFERENCE

NDSU EXTENSION SERVICE

NORTH DAKOTA STATE UNIVERSITY

National Youth Science Day 'Incredible Wearables'

The Situation

There were 626,560 posted tech job openings during the final 3 months of 2016. The estimate direct contribution of the tech industry to the US economy is \$1.3 trillion.* Technology occupations are projected to increase by 13% from 2016-2026.**

Extension Response

In a combination of promoting 4-H and educating youth about technology, the National Youth Science Day group developed a new lesson named 'Incredible Wearables' (IC). These kits involved learning the basics of how a common health monitor (such as a FitBit or Apple Watch) work.

Impacts

A total of 214 youth, ages 7-16, across Ward County were reached through afterschool programs, classrooms sessions and 4-H meetings. 71% of youth surveyed said that this project has made them more interested in science.

Survey responses from those asked if they would like to have a job related to science, 46% agreed or strongly agreed. When asked if IC helped them work as a team, 69% responded with 'a lot' and 'some.' IC has helped increase interest in technology and encouraged youth to work together as a team.

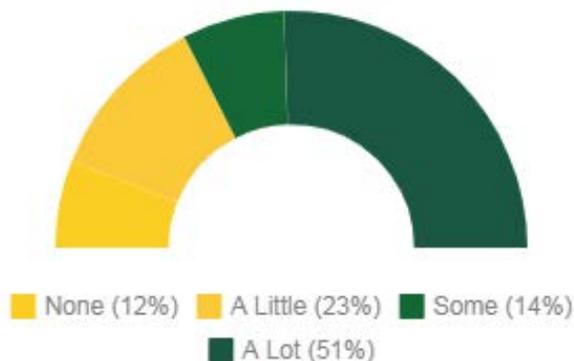
Public Value Statement

Exposure to science activities motivate youth to consider science careers. 4-Hers are two times more likely to pursue STEM activities.

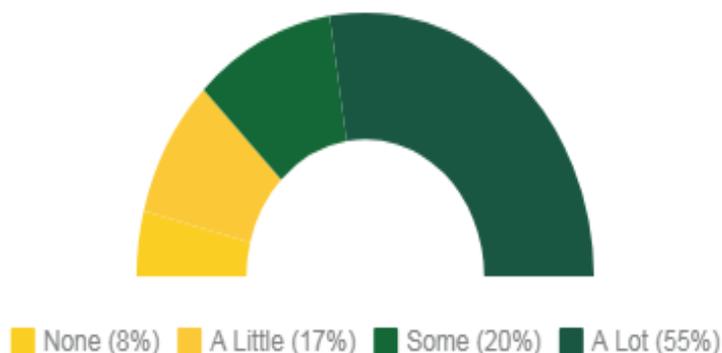
Feedback

Students wanted to know where they could use the technology elsewhere in their life. One asked, "How to run my own shop or to make my own Fitbit or Apple watches."

Made Me Want to Learn More about Wearable Technology



Taught Me the Basic Parts of a Wearable Device



*Marco Buscaglia Agency Tribune Content (2017, April 9). *Tech jobs on the rise: Survey results show national growth, but some states outpace others.* www.chicagotribune.com/business/careers/sns-201704071403--tms--career-carer-f20170409-20170409-story.html.

**"2016 Median Pay." U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, www.bls.gov/ooh/computer-and-information-technology/home.htm.

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