



CHRISTIAN TASCAN

Some of the students who attended the Science Institute of Discovery.

GYAC summer science camp a huge success

ANGELIA PERRY
YOURNEWS CONTRIBUTOR

Gifford Youth Achievement Center's summer science camp was a great success mainly because founder/instructor Margaret Ingram knows how to engage young, inquisitive minds.

The Science Institute of Discovery, Inc. is a nonprofit organization that Ingram formed to inspire minority students to become interested in the field of science. In its 17th year, the Institute endeavors to provide opportunities to fulfill these goals during the summer term. Fifty students were able to take part in the camp this year.

The mission is to stimulate an interest in science among minority and disadvantaged children, create educational training opportunities and to encourage a career in science that improves the student's lives and contributes to the community.

The 2017 Camp focused on "STEAM/STEM" subjects, learning through reviewing current technological industries as well as planning and implementing their own models. (STEAM stands for science, technology, engineering, arts and mathematics.)

Ingram's classes maintained the children's interest by teaching them the three R's --Robotics, Roller coasters and Rockets. Students learned through classroom participation and on-site tours of Kennedy Space Center, Indian River State College, the Gifford docks



DANIEL SULTON WITH MARGARET INGRAM.
Students show off the Mega Roller Coast they helped build.

and the CVS Distribution Center.

As students worked together to learn the basics of building projects, they learned the value of project testing, following instructions carefully and being patient. The challenge was to construct a miniature Mega Roller Coaster as a group. The model had to be constantly calibrated and adjusted to have various sized balls complete the journey along the length of the track.

At the end of the camp, parents and friends were invited to an open house to view the completed projects; watch a video of camp activities and look on as the student's received their Certificates of Completion.

Gifford Youth Achievement Center's campus is located at 4875 43rd Avenue. To view other classes and programs offered at GYAC, visit www.GYAC.net or call 772-794-1005.