



## Accel Grant Report

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The Emerald Coast Science Center (ECSC) received an ACCEL Grant to purchase Cubelets, a robotics kit. We've utilized Cubelets during our Spring Break Camp, Science Enrichment Program, and a workshop with the Hurlburt Youth Center. During these programs, Cubelets helped students explore introductions to robotics, coding and engineering.

In our lesson plans, students learn robotic functions through hands on play and exploration. Cubelets can be combined in many ways to create ingenious, functional robots. Students are guided to understand the functionality of these fun tools. Next they use their individual skills and imagination to create responsive robots that light up and move. ECSC has been able to utilize Cubelets for several programs. For Spring Camps and our Science Enrichment Program with the Northwest Florida Ballet Academy, students were challenged to make robots that could sense and act on the surroundings with as few cubes as possible. They were also challenged to experiment with the sensory cubes to see if they could hypothesize about the different ways the various sensors worked. At the Hurlburt Youth Center lock-in event, children were challenged to create a person-following or line-following robot using light and ultrasonic cubes, inverting cubes and blockers. In our Makerspace, visitors have been challenged to explore robotics and compare how Cubelets function differently than other systems like Ozobots and LittleBits.

We estimate that approximately 150 students have been directly impacted through educational programs specifically. We also have worked them into a pop-up station for the museum and expect, especially during the summer month, to reach a significant number of museum visitors as well.

