

# Parents of Extraordinary Kids

On July 19, 2017, MORT members enthusiastically gave a robotics demonstration at a camp sponsored by Parents of Extraordinary Children (PEAK) for special-needs children. PEAK sponsors the camp and other activities to give these children the opportunity to participate in engaging activities in a non-competitive and accepting environment. Children from any school district are welcome to participate, as organizers strive to include anyone in need.



During their 2017 camp demonstration, MORT students from all different sub-teams joined together to demonstrate all aspects of robotics. First, we spoke about the different aspects of our team and the FIRST organization. After giving some background about our program, we demonstrated a couple of our past robots. The children were eager to operate the controls and even act as driver and end effector! Since there were only 10 children in the camp, each MORT student was able to interact with every child on a personal level and leave a lasting impression. Here, we were able to spread the ideas of FIRST and educate the younger generation about the importance of STEAM and what robotics has to offer.

10 MORT volunteers were able to acquire a total of 24 hours, during which we were able to educate the next generation and bring special-education kids into the program. By exposing special-education children to robotics, we expanded their opportunities to flourish and the ability to engage in activities in a comfortable and supportive environment.