Expanding Your Horizons is a national organization that hosts local conferences with the mission “Inspiring girls to recognize their potential and pursue opportunities in science, technology, engineering and mathematics.” JINA has hosted a workshop at the University of Notre Dame conference for the past few years. In 2011-12, we led workshops on nuclear astrophysics that received average reviews compared to other workshops on topics such as making chapstick. Upon learning that participants are assigned to workshops instead of choosing those that interest them, we switched to a broader make-n-take workshop in which the students learned about Newton's Laws while creating “flying fish.” This year our workshop and presenters had median scores of 5 out of 5 and almost half of the total participants stated that after attending the conference, they were “very much more” positive about their future career possibilities.

Above: “JINA” rocket fish
Below: Female middle school students create their own flying fish

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