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COUNCIL ROCK

Kids learn physics through flight

The camp, in its third year, attracts about 20 students, ages 12 to 15, who want to build and fly the gas-powered replica planes.

By **RACHEL CANELLI**
STAFF WRITER

It was as though an F-14 just soared over Council Rock High School South.

Producing the thunderous roar of a life-size aircraft, the model plane — with a 10-foot wingspan and a turbine jet engine — whizzed past the crowd Tuesday morning, then shot several hundred feet into

the sky.

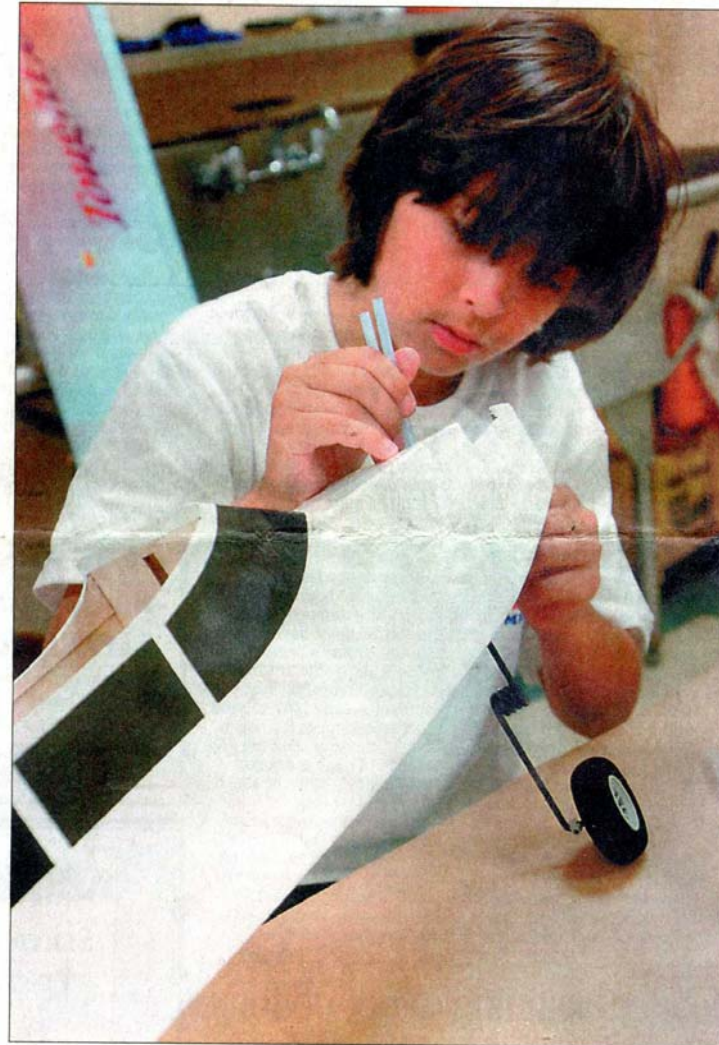
With the excitement of NASCAR fans waiting for their favorite driver to speed around a track, the boys' heads snapped in the direction of the remote-controlled devices.

"Wow!" they cried to one another. "That was cool!"

What's even cooler is that the kids are learning how to fly. During this week's physics and flight camp, the students are studying aerodynamics, the anatomy of a plane and air resistance, according to director Joe Warwick.

Tuesday morning's public air show on CR South's field

The sky's the limit



Tristan Wiecezorek (above) puts together a remote control plane at Council Rock High School South, while (right) spectators enjoy an airshow of remote control planes courtesy of Action Hobby in Langhorne for students in the annual Flight Camp. The flight camp features lessons on aerodynamics, the anatomy of a plane and air resistance. Story, 2A



featured professional demonstrations from the Middletown-based Action Hobby using miniature jets and helicopters, which are worth between \$5,000 and \$20,000 and can go between 160 mph to 300 mph.

"The object is to explore the principles of flight outside a traditional classroom," said Warwick, who teaches physics at CR South.

"Planes are a great teaching tool. This is a lost art, to some degree."

In its third year, the camp attracts about 20 students, ages 12 to 15, from across the county, who want to build and

fly the gas-powered replicas. The kids also train on flight simulators, which are like video games.

"I love flying and you can touch up on your skills here," said 12-year-old Sean Furgiuele, a seventh-grader at Pennwood Middle School in Pennsbury. "We learn something new every year and get to experiment and do crazy things with the basic rules of flight."

The weeklong camp costs \$350. So far, it has only interested boys. But Warwick said he's been trying to steer parents and girls away from the stereotype that flying and

physics are only for boys.

"I hope to inspire a love for science, and prove that it's not boring," he said. "My goal is to show that if they work hard and study, they can have the opportunity to design equipment like this."

Plus, once the boys master skills like making aircraft hover, they say it's addicting.

"It makes you look at science differently," said Matt Pellegrini, 14, a ninth-grader at William Tennent High School in the Centennial School District. "There are so many things you can do."

Rachel Canelli can be reached at 215-949-4191 or rcanelli@phillyBurbs.com.