EXPLORE AUTO TECHNOLOGY
AT
GIRLS TECH!

- The Automotive Science & Technology program at Burlington Technical Center (BTC) teaches how engines work, troubleshooting common engine problems and fuel system issues, and analyzing and completing vehicle manufacture repair algorithms.
- The Auto Body Repair program at BTC teaches students how to repair and refinish vehicles.
Natasha Arnold is an Auto Technician at Heritage Toyota.

Natasha started at Heritage four years ago as a TXM technician, doing oil changes, tire rotations and other basic things. After a few years, she moved on to the Toyota training school and became a certified electrical and engine technician. Though she doesn’t have a significant amount of customer interaction and considers herself introverted, one of Natasha’s favorite things about her job is the people. She likes to help customers and to make sure the vehicles are safe for the road. In a typical day, Natasha may service between 10-15 cars, though the number greatly depends on what each individual job entails.

Natasha explained that at Heritage, TXM technicians start out at $14/hour. As you progress and get certifications, you move to a flat rate pay, which is pay by the job. At that point, it is all about your drive and your willingness; a technician can make anywhere between $40,000-$100,000 per year.

As you watch Natasha’s video, here are a few questions to think about:

- What does Natasha love about her job?
- What is a challenge that Natasha faces in her job?
- Could you see yourself as an auto technician in the future? Why or why not?
- Are you interested in learning more about Automotive Technology?
Build Your Own Car

1. Before you start drafting what your car could look like, search around you for “car parts” that can be used. Things like cardboard boxes, toilet paper tubes, plastic straws, plastic bottles, etc. are perfect!

2. Draft what your car will look like, labeling the different parts of the car. Pay special attention to: how will your car be powered? Will you use a balloon? A motor? Human power? Feel free to go check out your own car or a car on the street for inspiration on the best structures to include.

3. Build your car based on your design! Make sure that you’re being safe if you are cutting through tough materials with scissors.

4. Decorate your car to make it as sleek and stylish as possible. Consider creating a passenger that fits in your model car.

5. Test out your car on a flat surface to see how fast, straight, smooth etc. it runs! Consider if there are ways that you can improve the function of your car, or how you can make it more realistic or goofy!
Explore the Automotive Field

Did you know? Burlington Technical Center (BTC) offers two programs that work with cars! To learn about car mechanics, check out BTC’s Automotive Science & Technology program. To learn about car exteriors, check out BTC’s Auto Body Repair program.

Meet the Automotive Science & Technology teacher!

Learn about Bob Church

Bob Church is a Master Automotive Service Technician. He began his career at BTC in 1991, and, over the course of 29 years, he has developed the Automotive Science & Technology program. The program is modeled on the educational philosophy of John Dewey; “education through occupation” and “not for occupation” with a core curriculum designed to use the “experience” of working on an automobile to enhance academic knowledge & technical skills. In addition to program development, Bob is proud of the relationships he’s developed with students, parents, business and community members.

For more information about the Automotive Science & Technology program, visit https://btc.bsdvt.org/programs/automotive-technology-science/.

Meet the Auto Body Repair teacher!

Learn about Sam Caron

Sam Caron is an ASE Master Certified Collision Repair Technician and is PPG Refinish Silver level certified. Sam has been at the Burlington Technical Center since 2016. He has spent a lifetime in the collision repair industry, growing up around, as well as working at and running his father’s auto body shop. Repairing and working on cars has been a way of life that led to his other passion, motorsports. After getting a degree in Mechanical Engineering Technology at Vermont Technical College, Sam began racing stock cars at racetracks around New England.

For more information about the Auto Body Repair program, visit https://btc.bsdvt.org/programs/auto-body/.