

Southwest Regional Maintenance Center hosts Bring Your Child to Work Day

By Cassandra Eichner, Southwest Regional Maintenance Center Public Affairs

San Diego--Southwest Regional Maintenance Center (SWRMC) hosted its first Bring Your Child to Work Day April 25.

This event provided an opportunity for SWRMC employees to educate children on their parent's workplace, as well as explore the many career opportunities available in science, technology, engineering and mathematics.

"The purpose of the event was to showcase our technical work environment and to encourage a career in science, technology, engineering, and math; as well as what the Navy has to offer." said CAPT Stefanyshyn-Piper, SWRMC Commanding Officer.

The event was open to civilians and military personnel with children in first grade or above. More than 40 children participated, ranging from ages 6 to 14. Tours included SWRMC Combat Systems, Gas Turbines, Corrosion Control, and the Dive Locker. USS John Paul Jones (DDG 53) and USS San Diego (LPD 22) also participated by providing tours of the ships to expose the children to potential careers in the Navy.

Michael Schwarz, a SWRMC engineer, said he brought his daughter Sophia to give her a better understanding of what he does and to show her the importance of SWRMC and how it supports the Navy

"Sophia has a better understanding of what we do here at SWRMC and specifically what I do onboard ships," said Schwarz. "She saw the equipment onboard the vessel, and she understands that we repair that equipment. The hands-on experience was beneficial for her tactile understanding.

The event also offered the opportunity for students to see how what they are learning in school is applied in the Navy.

"My daughter, Tatiana, had a school project with sponsor Rueben H. Fleet Science Center where they built a tool to pick up material off the ground," said Adriana Murillo, a SWRMC employee. "The construction of the tool taught her the basics of engineering. I then saw the command sponsored a 'Bring Your Child to Work Day' event. I was so excited to provide her with real life scenarios showcasing careers in engineering."

"Tatiana saw first-hand that the officer in charge of USS San Diego was a woman," said Murillo. "She thought that was just the coolest, when others were saluting her. The experience reinforced she can do anything she sets her mind to."

For more information on SWRMC please visit <http://www.swrmc.navy.mil/>