0724 Emmett Middle School
Idaho Region

Lessons Learned
<u>Experience Gained</u>
Our team is made up of mostly new students, so we have learned a lot!

We have learned how to communicate very well, we had to learn to get along with all new people. The juggling of ideas and deciding which one was best. We also had to work on being self-sufficient. As our coach had other classes going on at the same time as our practice.

<u>Documentation Process</u>
Having to document all steps of our process helped us realize how much work we actually had to do to make "simple" projects work. We had to communicate our ideas with one another and provide feedback to our team on a regular basis.

Working with deadlines helped us break down big projects into more manageable tasks, and as the season progressed, we got a little better at this. Time management was a struggle for us, especially as we worked around school breaks and other obligations we had.

<u>Surprises</u>
One of the things that surprised us was how much time it takes to get our documentation done. We had to have one of our coders take time to do the documentation. This took time away from them coding.

We were also surprised by the number of times we had to redesign and rebuild our claws on both robots. At the beginning, we thought our designs would easily work on both machines for the tasks we wanted our robots to complete. We had to redesign our claw on the Createbot 3 different times because we had too much weight on it and not enough stability on the arm. On our Demobot, we had to come to an agreement on how to build it so that it could complete all the tasks.

The amount of frustration the robots caused us. But we have learned that the robots respond well if you give them positive comments while calling them failures at the same time.

<u>Advice for Future Teams</u>
Our advice for new teams…
1. Learn how to navigate the Team Homebase.

2. Take time to explore Github before the mechanical review submission.
3. Be sure to spend time reviewing your game documentation, scoring, and how to compete.
4. Plan one or two extra meetings for documentation.
5. Start recruiting and fundraising early (even if you aren't going to GCER).

Code
Github account information: https://github.com/Riley27R/2023--EMS-Tech-Club