

# Girls outperform boys in test of tech-engineering literacy

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A new study shows that eighth-grade girls are better than boys at thinking through problems and using technology to solve them.

Overall, it's a skill that about 43 percent of eighth-graders sufficiently possess.

The findings released Tuesday come from a first-of-its-kind assessment of technology and engineering literacy by The Nation's Report Card. The 2014 assessment had 21,500 students in 840 schools tackle real-life challenges on computers, such as designing a safe bicycle lane and improving a pet iguana's habitat.

The report found that 45 percent of girls and 42 percent of [boys](#) scored at or above proficient at understanding and using [technology](#) to develop solutions.

Bill Bushaw of the National Assessment Governing Board says girls should be encouraged to recognize that they possess the skills needed for technical careers.

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