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From the Classroom to the Stream - Axalta Helps Students Get Hands-on Experience at Stroud Water Research Center

GLEN MILLS, Pa.--(BUSINESS WIRE)-- Fresh water is one of Earth's most precious resources, but also one of its most scarce. Water covers two-thirds of our planet, but fresh water accounts for only one percent of that total, making it a critical resource to conserve for future generations. Axalta Coating Systems (NYSE:AXTA), a leading global supplier of liquid and powder coatings, recently partnered with Stroud Water Research Center to host the Serviam Girls Academy, a tuition-free, independent middle school serving girls in grades five through eight, for a day of learning focused on freshwater conservation at Stroud's headquarters in Avondale, Pennsylvania.

This Smart News Release features multimedia. View the full release here:
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Axalta Coating Systems and Stroud Water Research Center host Serviam Girls Academy students during Stroud's Stream program. (Photo: Axalta)

During the program, the girls donned wading boots and got hands-on with stream life, collecting water samples and bugs to test the stream's health. Stroud scientists led the girls in experiments and taught them the indicators of a healthy stream.

"We were excited to host the young ladies, guide them through activities to assess the health of the stream, and inspire them to consider

STEM disciplines as a career,” said Dr. Steve Kerlin, Stroud Director of Education. “During their visit they participated in many new experiences including water chemistry testing, collecting and identifying macroinvertebrates from the stream for a bio assessment, stream habitat assessment, and a tour of our LEED Platinum building and some of the laboratories.”

Axalta is committed to helping the next generation pursue careers in the science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) fields. While more women are entering STEM fields than ever before, Axalta continues to engage in the enlightenment of future generations and their exposure to STEM education.

“Our partnership with Axalta has brought many wonderful gifts to Serviam Girls Academy,” said Peggy Hines, Serviam Girls Academy President. “The field trip to Stroud Water Research Center provided a wonderful opportunity to immerse our students into nature to learn about the world that supports them, and the importance of taking care of it. The girls had a blast as they gathered insects and tested the health of White Clay Creek.”

Serviam Academy eighth grader and participant, Paige Ponzo commented, “I liked learning about the tests that are conducted on water to measure the health of the stream, and I liked doing the tests ourselves.”

About Stroud Water Research Center

Since 1967, Stroud™ Water Research Center has been focused on one thing — fresh water. We are dedicated to understanding the ecology of streams, rivers, and their watersheds — both pristine and polluted. To learn more visit stroudcenter.org

About Axalta Coating Systems – Celebrating 150 Years in the Coatings Industry

Axalta is a leading global company focused solely on coatings and providing customers with innovative, colorful, beautiful and sustainable solutions. From light OEM vehicles, commercial vehicles and refinish applications to electric motors, buildings and pipelines, our coatings are designed to prevent corrosion, increase productivity and enable the materials we coat to last longer. With 150 years of experience in the coatings industry, the approximately 12,800 people of Axalta continue to find ways to serve our 100,000+ customers in more than 130 countries better every day with the finest coatings, application systems and technology. For more information visit axaltacoatingsystems.com and follow us @axalta on Twitter and on [LinkedIn](https://www.linkedin.com/company/axaltacoatingsystems).

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