

Xplorlabs



Xplorlabs safety science was introduced to Women in Natural Sciences' Chief Science Officers cohort. While WINS encourages youth to explore the interconnectedness between the natural world, communities and everyday lives, CSO encourages youth-led STEM advocacy projects to some of the most detrimental challenges faced on local and global level. In their exploration WINS were encouraged to draw connections to the importance of safety sciences, environmental sciences and citizen science. WINS were able to learn more about mining for natural resources and best practices for sustaining our natural environment. WINS were also encouraged to consider how mining for natural resources to support supply chain and production of cellphones could impact our natural world with increasing challenges of E-WASTE. WINS have amplified challenge with E-Waste by sharing insight at STEM community events !



Mining for the Future: Cellphones Really Rock

WINS began their exploration of safety science exploring minerals as fundamental resources for energy. They explored how extraction of minerals has detrimental impacts on wildlife habitats, local communities and human health.

WINS explored the various ore that may be extracted for the purpose of supply chain for various technology and highlight on cellphones. WINS investigation were led by examinations of lithium ion batteries through Xplorlabs. WINS were able to expand their exploration by researching impacts of mining for copper, aluminum, and cobalt. WINS interest in the topic was captivated by the reality that we heavily rely on much minerals to support communication with family, friends. As their exploration made it very clear that a world of minerals exists in handheld devices,

As they expanded their understanding of global impacts that arises in environmental challenges concerning E-Waste. WINS expressed concerns in how underdeveloped countries may be impacted by environmental challenges of E-waste such as waste management and wastewater contamination. Additionally, WINS are motivated to collaborate on call to action plan to help reduce challenges with E-waste on local and global scale.