Helper Bots to the Rescue

By Class 4/5-216
at P.S. 125 The Ralph Bunche School

Behind the Book / New York
Need to fix computers?
Need to stop bullying?
Need to organize and cook?
Need to solve homework?
Need to keep track of time?
Need to stop smoking around kids?
Need to stop littering?
Need to stop gun fights?
Need to stop racism and violence?
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Behind the Book’s mission is to develop engaged readers and writers in underserved NYC public schools by designing and delivering programs that are multi-disciplinary, culturally responsive, and promote deeper connections to books and their authors.

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In the interest of honoring student voice,
Behind the Book presents students’ work as received from the teacher.
This book is dedicated to
all the young innovators and changemakers.
You can achieve anything you put your mind to.
About the Program
How can we learn to design robots to help with our everyday problems? The students in Ms. Britton’s 4/5 class explored the amazing world of robotics beginning with the book *Rox's Secret Code* by Nathan Archambault and Mara Lecocq.

Like many of the students, Rox wanted to invent a robot that would clean her room. But her robot, Chorebot, went way overboard and tried to organize the entire city.
The class learned about coding and programming using a set of very specific instructions to get a robot to perform an activity. Together they ‘programmed’ Ms. Berry to make a peanut butter and jelly sandwich leading to many questions about coding, science, math, and robots.

When Nathan visited the class virtually, they asked him their questions and participated in an exercise using coding symbols to create dances. They got to perform their dances using their codes.
Between Nathan’s visits, the class participated in a workshop designing their own robots to make them solve problems by indicating necessary functions and codes.

Nathan gave them feedback on their draft worksheets to discuss their ideas and improve their codes. One student designed his robot to “give out hugs to stop gun violence.”
To help visualize their robot designs, Behind the Book teaching artist Candice Humphries demonstrated collage-making with a slideshow.

They created mixed-media collages about their robots and shared them with the class.
Learning about robots and how to design them was a treat for the students. They could imagine a time when so many boring chores or dangerous jobs could be done by these machines. They saw clearly how studying science and math will prepare them for the future when they could be the ones creating these fantastic machines.
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Robot Specs
The students in Ms. Britton’s 4/5 class designed the following robots to help with our everyday problems.
Hello, my name is

Love Bot
My Robot’s name is Love Bot. The problem that my Robot solves is fixing computers. He organizes computers to get fixed. My Robot has a square body. It has two big eyes. One is red and one is yellow. My robot has a big heart in the middle of its body. My robot wears a watch on his wrist. Also, it has two square buttons on his chest that have stars on it.

My Robot has three functions. My Robot can fix metals and wires with his tools. He can also fix other broken things. His third function is helping kids with homework.
Hello, my name is Zoey
My robot's name is Zoey. The problem that my robot solves is stop bullying and stop saying mean words. My robot stop people from bullying and saying mean words. Zoey has a cloak and a hat and hand and face and have long hand and it have long feet and have a lot of hair and it have and it smart and it book in Zoey hand and it have boot and have 8 feet. My three functions is have dancing leg and have long head and have long hair.
Hello, my name is Kayla
My robot's name is Makayla because it's a short name out of my name but just taking out the s and the a. The problem that my robot sells is no smoking around kids and no smoking because it can mess up your lungs and if you smoke around kids it's going to go in there face and they going to breath it in. My Robot has a silver stick hat to smash the signed out and people hands with her hand. She has red vocals so that way she can go faster to catch up to people. She has a box on the side of her stomach so she can shoot long arms. She got a close on her chest because she can tell time when she got to go and she got a magnifying glass to see closer because she's to light up. My robots three functions is that she can smash thing out of people hands. And she can pick her lay up and stomp on the legs so that's easy for her to bend down and pick up and throw it away and she can turn around to her trash bag that's behind her and she can throw it away.

BY Makayla
Hello, my name is Groot
My robot's name is Groot. The problem my robot is solving is sorting and organizing my pile of cleaners. My robot has interchangeable eyes and mouth. My robot has a pizza maker and a microwave in its stomach because when I'm hungry, Groot makes me food. My robot has four speeds: regular, medium, fast and extreme. Groot will organize my pile of cleaners when I set some, make pizza when I ask and respond when I call him Groot.
Hello, my name is Osniel 1105
My robot name is Osniel 105. The problem my robot is solving is homework and short listening. He does my homework for me. My robot look a samurai a hat and a katana and he has a sweater, and the sweater is silver. My robot has three functions, he swimm, his katana and he run and jumps and it shapeshifts and he can change color.
Hello, my name is
The Helper
My robot name is the Helper. The problem that my robot solves is gun fight's. My robot stop people from gun fight's. The Helper look like a astronaut and on it's arm it got a grabber and the robot have's a fuel tank and it has a wosh to go back in time. and it got a dog name Fluffy it help's the robot. The robot help people like if it is a fire the robot will fly to the fire. The robot delets gun so the world can be a better place and it delets Sigue's so people don't hav bad lung's. The robot help sickness by making medasin.

BY Chance
Hello, my name is Melunda
My robot name is Melinda. The problem that my robot solves is no more racism. Black lives matter. Volunteering and slaves. She turns the bad people into toys and she punishes them and takes away their souls. But she loves kids and babysits them. She has golden eyes. She also has human-like arms and hands but she has four fingers and human-like feet and legs. She wears soft cotton light pink yellow bolt and fur. The center is white. She has a thicker tail to chase up. When it's low, her black square head is lights, yellow.

By Mailee
Hello, my name is Bean
My robot's name is Bean. The problem that my robot is solving is that I lose track of time. So my robot keeps track of time for me so I won't forget and be late. My robot looks cool. The head is made out of a circle and has a red spiky triangle on it. The body is a square. It has two purple arms with a block. He says to hello Kevin! He lifts his hand and tells me the time.
Hello, my name is Fox Bot
My Robot's name is Fox Bot. The problem that
my robot solves is littering. My robot stops people from
littering. Fox bot has a box for a head, fox ears and a
fox tail. She has tin foil legs and tin foil arms. Fox box
has a microphone and a clock. With a box dress.

The three functions that Fox bot can do is First
Fox bot can rake leaves. The second function is
to put trash in the trash bag. The third
function is to make trash disappear with her
microphone. Fox box likes to have fun. The End.

BY Robyn
About the Student Authors
Class 4/5-216 is a self-contained 4th and 5th grade class whose students embrace every opportunity to learn, grow, and welcome any challenges that come their way. In our class, students use their unique abilities to create and collaborate with their innovative ideas to help this world be a better place for the future and to advocate for change. They are brave, brilliant and know that they matter.

Some of the students’ favorite books include: *The Supa Dupa Kid*, *Dog Man*, *Diary of a Wimpy Kid*, *Bad Guys*, and *Captain Underpants*. In addition, students enjoy drawing, writing comics, and playing video games in their spare time.
About the Visiting Author
Born and raised in Rhode Island, the smallest state in the country, Nathan developed big aspirations to combine creativity and business from an early age. After an active childhood that included publishing poetry accompanied by watercolor paintings, completing art projects that changed the curriculum at his high school, and starting a pet care business that was featured in the state newspaper, Nathan attended Syracuse University where he earned dual bachelor’s degrees in Advertising and English.

Nathan settled in New York City to kick off his career in advertising, first as a copywriter and then as a creative director.

For one of Nathan’s favorite projects was asked to inform parents about the gender gap in high-paying STEM careers that shape the future. When that project ended, Nathan wanted to keep drawing attention to this important cause. So he teamed up with some coworkers to write a picture book, Rox’s Secret Code that inspires girls to get into coding. When not writing copy for ads or books for kids, you can find Nathan playing soccer with Boris his English Bulldog, or inspiring his two young daughters to discover their own superpowers.
About
Behind the Book
Behind the Book brings authors and their books into classrooms to build literacy skills and foster a community of lifelong readers and writers. Working with classes from Pre-K through 12th grade, our series of workshops is designed to bring books to life and inspire students to reach their full potential. Behind the Book is embedded in the class curriculum, nurtures critical thinking, creativity, and self-confidence in New York City public school students. All programs meet the Next Generation Learning Standards.
Next Gen Learning Standards Addressed
Math Operations and Algebraic Thinking:
NY-4.OA: Generate and analyze patterns.
5. Generate a number or shape pattern that follows a given rule. Identify and informally explain apparent features of the pattern that were not explicit in the rule itself.

Reading Key Ideas and Details:
4R3 & 5R3: In literary texts, describe a character, setting, or event, drawing on specific details in the text. Informational texts, explain events, procedures, ideas, or concepts, including what happened and why, based on specific evidence from the text.

Writing Types and Purposes:
4W3 & 5W3: Write narratives to develop real or imagined experiences or events using effective technique, descriptive details, and clear event sequences.

Writing Comprehension and Collaboration:
4SL1 & 5SL1: Engage effectively in a range of collaborative discussions with diverse partners, expressing ideas clearly, and building on those of others.
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