Sunrise Ridge students work on devices for children with disabilities.

Last week, a St. George classroom-full of middle-school students blended science, engineering and technology with a genuine desire to help real people—and CPD staff members were there to help it happen. "They were having a blast, and so was I," said Up to 3’s Amy Henningsen, who went to provide her expertise as an occupational therapist. "We had the moms [of children with disabilities] present the child and their struggles," said Burke Jorgensen, a therapist with Dixie Regional Pediatric Rehabilitation. He brought in two families he worked with and had them talk about their needs to Angie Frabasilio's class at Sunrise Ridge Intermediate. "Then the kids had to find solutions to help them. I was amazed at how well they thought through the problems. Then they came up with some really good solutions, some I wish I had thought of." Henningsen and Logan AT Lab Coordinator Clay Christensen coached the students on assistive technology techniques. Their teacher, Angie Frabasilio, planned to have her students work on assistive technology this year, regardless. When their proposal to help children with disabilities gain more independence won $25,000 from the Samsung Solve for Tomorrow competition (they were winners at the state level), that was even better.

Adults also came in to participate--health care professionals, a student in training and several educators. Reporters were there, too. For a look at the action in the classroom, watch the ABC 4 News segment.