FIRST®—Hands-On STEM Learning Programs for Every Age

FIRST® is the world's leading youth-serving nonprofit advancing STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) education. For over 30 years, FIRST® participants from all walks of life have developed self-confidence in STEM and valuable, real-world skills that open pathways to a better future.

FIRST programs engage students to work collaboratively to solve an annual robotics challenge in inclusive, creative learning environments in schools and local communities. FIRST® is backed by a global network of mentors, educators, volunteers, sponsors, parents, alumni, and program delivery partners.

Children can join any of our three programs based on age or grade level. Ages may vary by region.

**FIRST® LEGO® League**

Grades PreK-8 · Ages 4-16
FIRST® LEGO® League introduces STEM to children through fun, exciting hands-on learning. Participants gain real-world problem-solving experiences through a guided, global robotics program, helping today's students, families, and educators build a better future together. FIRST® LEGO League's three divisions inspire youth to experiment and grow their critical thinking, coding, and design skills through hands-on STEM learning and robotics.

Registration Open: May – October
Challenge Release: August
Event Season: September – April
Teams: Up to 10 students for Challenge division, formed by schools, after-school programs, homeschools, community groups. Smaller, age-appropriate teams for Discover and Explore divisions.

Time Commitment: One to three-hour meetings, generally held for 12 sessions.

Estimated Cost:
- Discover: Class Pack Registration (up to 8 students) is $195. Reusable STEAM Park Sets start at $209.95.
- Explore: Team Registration is $125.
- LEGO® Education SPIKETM Essential: $319.95 (reusable).
- Challenge: Team Registration is $250. Challenge Set: $95. LEGO® SPIKETM Prime: $533.90.
  - Team registration includes guides for teachers and students.

Check our website for grants and classroom implementation options for all divisions.

**FIRST® Tech Challenge**

Grades 7-12 · Ages 12-18
FIRST® Tech Challenge students learn to think like engineers. Teams design, build, and program robots to compete in an alliance format against other teams. Robots are built from a reusable platform, powered by Android technology, and can be coded using a variety of programming languages. Participants and alumni have access to education and career discovery opportunities, connections to scholarships and employers, and a place in the FIRST® community for life.

Registration Open: May – April
Event Season: September
Game Release: September
Teams: Up to 15 students formed by schools, after-school programs, home schools, community groups.

Time Commitment: 90-minute to three-hour meetings, generally held twice a week for 9-12 weeks.

Estimated Cost:
- Team Registration is $295.
- Teams may use either REV: $1,450 or TETRIX $1,495 robot kit (both reusable).

Check our website for grants and classroom implementation options.

**FIRST® Robotics Competition**

Grades 9-12 · Ages 14-18
FIRST® Robotics Competition teams design, program, and build industrial-sized robots from scratch with a kit of parts and a common set of rules to play a different game every season. Teams also create a team identity, develop community partnerships for support, and work to promote STEM in their local community. Participants and alumni have access to education and career discovery opportunities, connections to scholarships and employers, and a place in the FIRST® community for life.

Registration Open: May – December
Game Release: January
Event Season: February – April
Teams: Students formed by schools, after-school programs, home schools, community groups.

Time Commitment: Teams typically meet several times a week, January through April.

Estimated Cost:
- Team Registration is $6,000.

Check our website for grants.

Learn more about FIRST® and our suite of hands-on programs at firstinspires.org