



Introduction to *FIRST*® LEGO League Jr.

Dear parent/guardian,

We are excited that your child has joined the *FIRST* LEGO League Jr. program at

Read on for an introduction to the program and an invitation to join us for an exciting event! If you have any questions about the program, please contact

What is *FIRST*®?

FIRST® (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology) was founded in 1989 to inspire young people's interest and participation in science and technology. Based in Manchester, New Hampshire, the 501(c)(3) not-for-profit public charity designs accessible, innovative programs that motivate young people to pursue education and career opportunities in science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM), while building self-confidence, knowledge, and life skills. *FIRST* learning never stops building upon itself, starting at age 6 and continuing through middle and high-school levels up to age 18. Young people can join the international, K–12, after-school, STEM programs at any level.

What is *FIRST*® LEGO® League Jr.?

FIRST LEGO League Jr. is a non-competitive, hands-on STEM program geared toward children ages 6 to 10. Each year, *FIRST* LEGO League Jr. presents a new and exciting Challenge to ignite the creativity of these children. Each team of up to six children begins the exploration of this real-world theme with an exclusive LEGO® Education Inspire Model. Using this model as a starting point, they design a new model of their own with LEGO® elements. As they work, they learn basic engineering and programming skills with LEGO Education WeDo and apply those concepts to make their model move. Teams also document their work in an *Engineering Notebook* and share their journey through a team *Show Me* poster. Throughout their experience, teams operate under the *FIRST* LEGO League Jr. Core Values, celebrating discovery, teamwork, and *Gracious Professionalism*®.

What is the Challenge for this season?

This season's *FIRST* LEGO League Jr. Challenge is called MISSION MOONSM. Teams will begin by learning about the Moon and exploring what kinds of problems they would need to solve in order to live there. Then they will design a solution to one or more of these problems. All teams will show what they learn by designing and creating a Moon Base and Show Me poster. See p. 5 for a description of the MISSION MOON Challenge that you can share with your *FIRST* LEGO League Jr. team.

Join Us at Your Child's *FIRST* LEGO League Jr. Expo!

The culminating event for the program is a *FIRST* LEGO League Jr. Expo. An Expo provides teams with an opportunity to showcase what they have learned with their families, friends, and community in a fun, non-competitive atmosphere. Your child's team will be prepared to share its Team Model and *Show Me* poster with you at the event. We invite you and your extended family to join us for this exciting experience. Please find details below, and mark your calendar!

Date:

Time:

Location:

For more information, contact: