

Robot Competitions

And how they fit with Project Based Learning

Why Have Robot Competitions?

- Gives students a competitive goal to solve a very complex problem that they want to learn how to solve
- Students get work in teams and utilize all the project-based learning we just discussed
- Students become very engaged because their pride is on the line - they compete to win
 - Students at WPI report that participating as mentors on our FRC team was the single most significant thing they did in their college career
- This is often a life-changing experience

Sample Design Process

- Understanding the Problem
- Brainstorming robot ideas
- Building prototypes
- Building the real robot
- Testing and breaking the robot
- Practice operating or driving

FIRST (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology

The original robotics competitions

A Full Range of Robotics Programs

- JFLL Junior FIRST Lego League
- FLL FIRST Lego League
- FTC FIRST Tech Challenge
- FRC FIRST Robotics Competition



FIRST Robotics Competition (FRC)

The First FIRST Competition

- Started in 1992 with 25 teams (including WPI)
- High school program with adult mentors designed to inspire students to pursue STEM careers
- 2018 has over 3400 teams participating from many countries

FIRST Robotics Competition

Competitions designed to celebrate STEM skills



FIRST Lego League (FLL)

What's FIRST Lego League (FLL)



Lego Summer Program for 7-9th grade



Lego Robots - Not Just for Fun

Object Oriented Programming (Java) class for WPI Juniors. Learned about Java Programming and Objectoriented program design

VEX Robotics

VEX Robotics

- Table-top sized robots (like the ones you used yesterday)
- 7th-12th grade target
- Can be programmed in C or graphically
- 16,000 teams from 40 countries

VEX Robotics

- Middle school, high school, and college/university
- More than 16,000 teams from 40 countries playing in over 750 tournaments
- Local, regional, national, and world competitions
- Standard Matches: Two alliances of two teams each playing against each other
- Robot Skills Challenge: One robot playing alone against the clock
- Online Challenges: Unique contests using CAD, animation, essays, and more

Territory				
Australia				
Bahrain				
Bermuda				
Brazil				
Burundi				
Cambod a				
Alberta				
British Columbia				
Ontario				
Quebec				
Saskatchewan				
Chile				
China				
Colombia				
Dominican Republic				
Egyp:				
Ethiopia				
Finland				
Fornce				
Guam				
Guatemala				
Haiti				
Honduras				
Hong Kong				
India				
Indonesia				
Ireland				
Japan				
Jordan				
Kazakhetan				
Lebanon				
Macau				
Valaysia				
Mexico				
Nepal				
New Zealand				
Paraguay				
Penu				

Territory **Philippines** Puerto Rico RLESIA Saudi Arabia Senega Sincapore South Korea 3pain Syria. Tawan Theiland Turkey Uganda JAE United Kingdom

VEX Championship each year





FIRST Global

Olympics of Robotics

What is FIRST Global?



Olympics of Robotics

2017 FIRST Global National Teams



African FIRST Global Teams



/technic Institute

FIRST Global Rwanda Team



Régis Aimé RUGERINYANGE	lycee de Kigali
Paola IKIREZI	Excella high school
Aubin Marc MUGISHA	Remera Rukoma secondary school
Serge BYISHIMO	SOS technical school
Frank MUHIRWA	Saint Andrew secondary school
Benita Olga ISHIMWE	Stella Matutina
Joselyne UWIHOREYE	Saint Ignace secondary school

Follows Olympics Model

- Olympics-style robotics event with participation from over 157 countries
- Inaugural event was July 17-18, 2017 at DAR Constitution Hall in Washington DC
- Held yearly rotating through participating countries
- This summer in Mexico City

The 2017 Game

Programming

• Either Block- based or Java









2018 FIRST Global Competition Mexico City, Mexico

Pan African Robotics Competition (PARC)

ONE-HEALTH INNOVATION

Africa has 6 out of 10 fastest growing economies but it also has the highest disease burden in the world. PARC 2018 challenges African students to devise solutions to provide access to quality Health services using science and technology – Surgical Robotics, Wearable Biosensors, Handheld Point of Care Diagnostics, Virtual and Augmented Reality in Healthcare education, Organs on a chip, Internet of Things for Healthcare, Drug/Vaccine development, manufacturing, etc.

Multiple Competition Levels



TECH LEAGUE (MIDDLE SCHOOL)



STARS LEAGUE (HIGH SCHOOL)



MAKERS LEAGUE (HIGH SCHOOL)



ENGINEERING LEAGUE (COLLEGE)

Collegiate Level Competitions

DARPA Robotics Competition (DRC)

DARPA Robotics Competition

Summary

- Robot competitions bring out the best in students of all ages
- To be successful students are required to:
 - Learn about Science, Technology, Engineering and Math
 - Work in teams, just like in jobs they'll get
 - Lifelong skills the will make the students better and will improve the world
- Knowledge needed for building robots come from Math, Engineering, Physics, Computer Science