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WPAFB Educational Outreach

INSPIRING STUDENTS IN STEM

March 2020

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K-12 STEM ENQUIRER

Read Across America

March 5th and 6th marked the 21st year of our participation in a national program encouraging children to develop a love for reading. The National Museum of the United States Air Force partnered with the WPAFB Educational Outreach Office to host over 500 2nd and 3rd grade students from eight local schools. Students were regaled with stories of the Wright brothers, Green Eggs and Ham and other classics by enthusiastic employees of WPAFB. It was loads of fun! If you would like to participate next year, email Kathy at katherine.emrick.ctr@us.af.mil.

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...Join Us Next Month

- FLL World Festival
- STARBASE 2.0



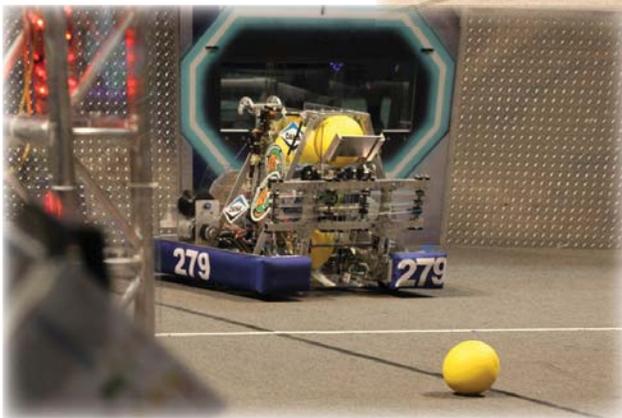
On February 29th, 2020, the WPAFB Educational Outreach office hosted 17 teams at the FIRST LEGO League Jr. Miami Valley Expo at the Ervin J. Nutter Center. These teams showed off their creativity and collaboration by meeting with a pair of reviewers to showcase their LEGO model and show-me poster as well as taking part in a fun and challenging teamwork activity. When they weren't busy sharpening their presentation and teamwork skills, each team had the opportunity to engage in activities like writing a thank you note to deployed service members, building a LEGO city, and playing building games. The highlight for many of the teams was getting to interact with high schoolers from the FIRST Robotics Competition (FRC) teams that were competing in the Miami Valley FRC Regional. This opportunity for FIRST LEGO League Jr. teams to see first-hand what the FIRST programs have to offer as they get older was priceless.





FIRST® Robotics Competition Regional Tournament

On February 26-29th, 60 teams from 10 States converged at Wright State’s Nutter Center for the Miami Valley Regional FIRST Robotics Competition. The FIRST Robotics Competition (FRC) is designed to help high-school-aged students experience science and technology in a competition that feels more like the NCAA Final Four than a science fair. Students work with mentors to design and build a 120lb robot to play a pre-defined game in about 6 weeks. In this year’s game- teams of 3 robots vs 3 robots work to power the city by throwing power cells (balls) into the generator (goals). Then at the end- they all try to hang from swinging bars. Sounds a little crazy? You’ve really got to see it to believe it. The top award of the competition, won by Rolling Thunder of New York, is the Chairman’s award- recognizing the team that “best represents a model for other teams to emulate and embodies the purpose and goals of FIRST”. The regional winners of the competition were 340 from NY, 1787 Flying Circuits from Pepper Pike OH and 3266 Robots-R-Us from Eaton OH. Each of these teams earned a spot at the international championship in Detroit, MI in April.



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