

Wright-Patterson AFB Educational Outreach K-12

**INSPIRING STUDENTS IN STEM** 

K-12 STEM ENQUIRER

February 2024

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#### Join us next month...

Read Across America

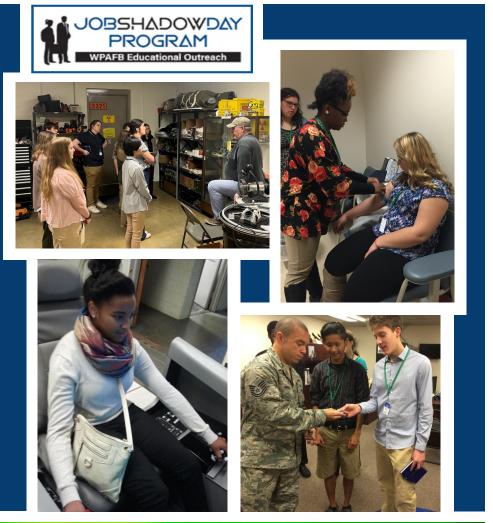
FIRST<sup>®</sup> State Championships



# **Spring Job Shadow Day**

The WPAFB Spring Job Shadow day is scheduled for **Thursday, April 11<sup>th</sup>** from **8:30 am - 2:30 pm**. The day will start at the National Museum of the United States Air Force, where students will meet their mentors.

Student Applications will go out towards the end of March via email. Please contact <u>Kim DeHart (Stultz)</u> to be added to the distribution list and stay up-to-date.



## **FLL Explore Season Update**

*FIRST®* LEGO® League Explore teams showcased their programs this January and February with events in Solon, Cincinnati, and Kent, OH! 29 teams presented at these events, showing off all they have learned and accomplished so far this season. FLL Explore is the middle of three divisions (Discover, Explore, and Challenge) of *FIRST* LEGO League, created to inspire youth to experiment and grow their critical thinking, coding, and design skills through fun hands-on STEM learning and robotics. All *FIRST* programs are built on a foundation of Core Values, celebrating discovery, impact, inclusion, teamwork, and fun. Teams of children ages 6-10 have investigated a challenge related to a real-world theme, designing and building their solution as a group. This season, MASTERPIECE, focuses on STEAM; Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Mathematics. Children will learn about the role science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) plays in the arts and will imagine and innovate new ways to create and communicate art across the globe. As always, we were so impressed with what these young innovators were able to explore, create, test, and share!



## **Tech Fest**

The WPAFB Educational Outreach Office and STARBASE participated in TechFest, a free two-day family event held at Sinclair Community College. This year, over 90 exhibitors and presenters from the Miami Valley and beyond made TechFest one of the biggest STEM events in Ohio. With over 1,100 students and 2,500 in attendance, those who visited the Education Outreach exhibit participated in two projects; a Valentine-themed Makey-Makey Scratch coding game and squishy circuits, where power came from a 9V battery and traveled through the conductive dough to provide power to the LEDs. We enjoyed seeing all the students and their families!

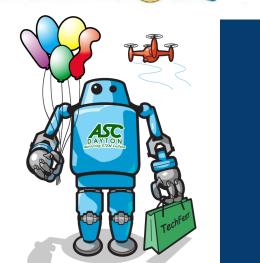


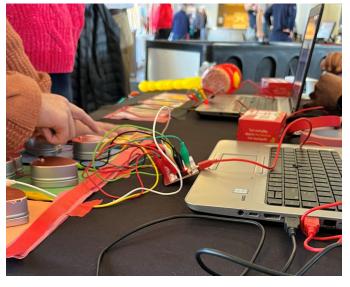


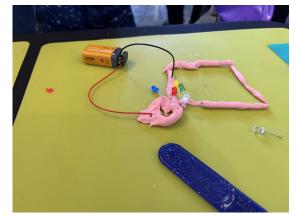












## **WOW! Lesson Spotlight**

#### WOW! offers **MEASUREMENT** lessons on all topics for multiple grade levels.

#### Measuring Length, Width and Height (Most appropriate for grade levels K-2.)

This lesson covers why measurement is important; length, width, and height; and the use of a ruler, yardstick and measuring tape. Students will be able to distinguish among inches, feet, and centimeters and will use standard and non-standard units of measurement to identify the size of an object. Students will also recognize the different sizes of objects, compare them, and then connect those differences to length, width, and height.

#### Standard and Non-Standard Units (Most appropriate for grade levels K-2.)

This lesson explains why measurement is important, standard units of measurement (such as inches, pounds, and pints) and non-standard units of measurement (steps, hand spans, cubes, and counters).

#### Tools for Linear Measurement (Most appropriate for grade levels K-2.)

This lesson teaches measuring with inches, feet, and centimeters while using rulers, tape measures, and yardsticks. Students will compare sizes of objects as well as practice selecting the proper unit when measuring an object.

#### Inches and Centimeters (Most appropriate for grade levels K-2.)

This lesson develops measuring skills with inches, feet, and centimeters while using rulers, tape measures, and yardsticks.

#### <u>**Things We Measure**</u> (Most appropriate for grade levels 3-5.)

This lesson focuses on hands-on experiences to show the understanding of the concepts of length, weight, time, temperature, and volume.

#### Measurement (Most appropriate for grade levels 6-8.)

This lesson is a review of middle school measurement skills. Students will be reviewing measurement tools, metric conversion, and finding area.













## WOW! Teacher Workshops

The WOW! program has a few spots available for educators to attend FREE Spring Workshops. Teachers will have an opportunity to learn about Finch Robots, Ozobots, Sphero Indis, Sphero Bolts and Bee Bots.

Workshops will be held at SOITA (1205 E. Fifth Street, Dayton, OH 45402) on Wednesday, March  $13^{th}$  and Thursday, March  $21^{st}$ .

Please visit the WOW! <u>website</u> for registration information.

Contact the WOW! program manager, <u>Angel</u> <u>Callahan</u>, with questions.



Wright-Patt



# **Employee Spotlight**

Name: Alexis Bellomy (contractor)

Title: Instructor Assistant

**Program:** *STARBASE* 

Years with the EO office: 1 year

What do you enjoy most about your role in the STARBASE office? My favorite thing is working with a team who is just as passionate about this job as I am. Having a team who works this well together makes me excited to come to work every morning. It's also pretty cool that I get to do science experiments every day.

What is your favorite aspect of working with students in STEM? *I* love watching students have an "aha" moment when learning something new. Our students get to do so many hands-on activities that really make STEM exciting to them. I think that's really

important for kids to be kids, so I value that our program is catered to them.

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What accomplishment are you most proud of in the STARBASE office? I am most proud of my one on one work with our students. As an instructor's assistant I'm in a unique position to focus my attention towards particular student(s) when I can tell they need help. It is very rewarding to see all our students be successful - especially those I have take the time to work with independently.

If you had one superpower, what would it be and why? If I could have my super power I would choose teleportation! If I had teleportation, I would use it for so many things, big and small. I would use it to teleport myself to new and exciting places for an instant vacation; I would also teleport to the store when I forget that one thing I really needed. Most importantly I would use it to never be late to anything ever again!



