



# Getting Your Program Started

**Congratulations!** Deciding to participate in the *FIRST* LEGO League Jr. Program is a step in the right direction towards exposing your participants to innovative practices, imaginative thinking and teamwork. This guide will help you get started inspiring the future scientists and engineers in your class! This includes registration, training, choosing your implementation model, recruiting students to participate, and more. Use this comprehensive checklist to ensure all of the necessary steps are taken to run the best possible *FIRST* LEGO League Jr. program.

## CHECKLIST FOR IMPLEMENTATION

### ✓ RESEARCH *FIRST* LEGO LEAGUE JR. AND THEIR CORE VALUES

### ✓ RECRUIT TEAM MEMBERS AGES 6 TO 10

- The ideal team size is 4 children
- Create flyers and pamphlets to advertise the program in schools and youth centers
- Reach out to parents of children in the community

### ✓ RECRUIT COACHES

- Create flyers and pamphlets to distribute throughout the community
- Reach out to colleges, universities, military organizations, and local churches
- There is no requirement that coaches have any prior STEM background or training

### ✓ FIND A MEETING SPACE

- Meeting space should have access to computers with internet and WiFi
- The ideal meeting space will have room to store teams' models

### ✓ REGISTER AND PAY

- Registration occurs through the *FIRST* LEGO League Jr. website
- It is not necessary to have the names of all team members before registration

### ✓ ORDER MATERIALS

- Order a LEGO Education WeDo 2.0 Core Set. *These can be purchased at a discount through the FIRST team registration site after the registration fee is paid. (1 WeDo 2.0 kit per team)*

- Additional materials to order include:

- Tablets (i.e. Samsung, Chromebooks, etc.) –  
*Be sure to follow capability requirements of FIRST LEGO League Jr.*
- Pencils and markers
- Poster board

- AA Batteries
- Construction paper
- Blank paper
- Glue sticks
- Scissors

## ✓ LOCATE RESOURCES TO SUPPORT YOUR *FIRST* LEGO LEAGUE JR. TEAM

- *FIRST*-friendly businesses, participating schools, and your region's *FIRST* LEGO League Jr. Partner (found at [firstlegoleaguejr.org](http://firstlegoleaguejr.org))
- Resources focused on youth protection and safety including *FIRST*'s Youth Protection Program (YPP)

## ✓ REVIEW *FIRST*'S COACH/TEAM RESOURCES

- Can be found on *FIRST*'s LEGO League Jr. website

## ✓ TRAIN THE SELECTED COACHES

- Have all coaches review the *FIRST* LEGO League Jr. Team Meeting Guide – *included in registration*

## ✓ SELECT THE IMPLEMENTATION MODEL YOU WISH TO FOLLOW

### IN SCHOOL

- Running the program as a part of your in class STEM curriculum
- Offering the program as an additional class with a focus on STEM to specific groups of students
  - Students who display a strong interest in STEM
  - Students who struggle with STEM subjects
  - Students with developmental delays

### AFTER SCHOOL

- Implement your program as an afterschool program at your school
- Collaborate with an Independent Afterschool Organization to run the program

## ✓ IMPLEMENT THE PROGRAM BASED ON THE CURRENT CHALLENGE

- Utilize the *FIRST* LEGO League Jr. website for tips on implementation and more information on the current curriculum session (i.e. Mission Moon)

## ✓ PLAN AND HOST OR ATTEND A *FIRST* LEGO LEAGUE JR. EXPO

- All *FIRST* LEGO League Jr. events are non-competitive
- Details on how to run your event can be found in the Program Administrator Guide

**Thank you for choosing *FIRST* LEGO League Jr. to engage children with hands-on activities that spark their interest in STEM education!**

Increasing interest in doing well in school, and having more interest in attending college through science, technology, engineering, and math concepts is just one way *FIRST* LEGO League Jr. is working with you to ensure bright futures for youth. At the core of it all, *FIRST* values fun, imaginative learning to lead them on the road to success. Thank you!



We hope you find success implementing your *FIRST* LEGO League program. For assistance please reach out to Collin Fultz at [cfultz@firstinspires.org](mailto:cfultz@firstinspires.org), or the FirstPic, Inc. team at 443-302-2080.