Curious About FIRST Lego League (FLL) at Challenger?

What is FIRST Lego League (FLL)?

FIRST Lego League (FLL) is an international STEM program that introduces young students to the exciting world of robotics and engineering. In a fun and competitive environment, participants work together to design, build, and program a robot using the LEGO EV3 system. They also undertake a science project related to the annual theme, encouraging creativity and critical thinking.

Who Can Participate?

- **Ages:** FLL is open to children aged 9 to 14.
- **Team Composition:** Each team can have up to 10 members.
- **Mentorship:** Teams are guided by at least two adult mentors, who can be teachers, parents, or community leaders. We have such mentors, but volunteers and high school alumni are welcome!

How is the Program Structured?

The FLL program at the Challenger Learning Center runs throughout the school year and includes:

- **August:** New game challenges are announced. This year's reveal was Aug 6.
- **December:** Local contests begin, allowing teams to test their skills.
- **Jan-April:** Opportunities to advance to higher-level competitions. If the competition season ends for the team, we enter post-season skill-building season.

What Are the Benefits for Children?

Participating in FLL helps children develop a range of valuable skills, including:

- **Engineering Skills:** Mechanics, electronics, and programming.
- **Research Skills:** Conducting investigations related to the theme.
- **Soft Skills:** Teamwork, leadership, problem-solving, perseverance, and communication.

What Are Competitions Like?

Competitions are day-long events where teams compete against others to demonstrate their robot's abilities and present their project. These contests include:

- **Robot Games:** Teams have multiple chances to perform missions with their robots.
- **Interviews:** Teams explain their robot design, project research, and teamwork strategies to judges.
- **Awards:** Prizes are given for achievements in robotics, project presentation, and overall performance.

How Does the Program Work at Challenger?

Meeting Schedule:

- **Meeting Times:** Every Monday and Wednesday, 4:00 PM to 7:00 PM
- **Location:** Challenger Learning Center
- **Flexibility:** Late arrivals and early pick-ups are accommodated to fit family schedules.

Activities

- **Robot Design and Programming:** Build and program robots using the LEGO EV3 Kit.
- **Project Development:** Work on science projects related to the annual FLL theme.
- **Team-Building Exercises:** Engage in activities that promote teamwork, communication, and collaboration.

Local and Regional Contests: Opportunities to showcase skills and teamwork at various competitions, gaining feedback and recognition.

Required Materials and Costs

- LEGO EV3 Kit*
- Practice Game Table*
- Computers*
- Coaches*

Summary of Costs

Our annual expenses for the FIRST Lego League program, include:

- Team registration
- Challenge sets (game board)
- Competition fees
- Materials
- Snacks
- Staffing

All add up to approximately **$5,000 per game season**. These costs are currently covered by grant funding, ensuring free participation for all students, but please consider supporting the program.

Ways to Support

- **Monetary Donations:** Help cover ongoing expenses in the Spring.
- **Volunteer:** Assist during meetings and events.
- **Donate Snacks:** Provide snacks for the team.
- **Supply Donations:** Contribute materials or supplies.
- **Use of Donations:** Supports new materials, snacks, team shirts and merchandise, staff development, and program expansion.

Why Choose FLL?

FLL at the Challenger Learning Center offers a unique opportunity for your child to explore STEM in an engaging and supportive environment. It fosters a love for science and technology, builds confidence, and provides a platform for making lifelong friends and mentors.

For more information or to register your child, please contact us. We look forward to welcoming your child to our exciting FLL program!

2024/2025 (completed) SUBMERGED Season Materials

Season Resources:

- Engineering Notebook: Access Here
- Robot Game Rulebook: Review Here
- Challenge Updates (6 August 2024): Latest Updates

Videos:

- Season Reveal: Watch Here
- Season Welcome: View Here
- Robot Game Missions: Watch Missions
- Preparing for Your Event: Preparation Video
- Career Connections: Career Playlist

2025/2026 UNEARTHED

Season Resources: