



## HOW TO START

a Junior FIRST® LEGO® League Team in Oregon  
for the 2013/2014 season.

For children 6 – 9 years old. (K – 3<sup>rd</sup> grade)

Jr.FLL has captured the imagination and minds of thousands of kids. Each year, the Challenge Advisory Team designs a new and exciting Challenge to ignite the inherent creativity in young kids. The end result of the design process is a Challenge with two defined parts – the **Show-Me Poster and the Model**.

The **Show-Me Poster** requires kids to illustrate their research and team journey. It provides an opportunity for them to share what they studied and what they learned. Their creative minds get started working on how to present their information and build their ideas.



The **Model portion of the Challenge** gets kids' hands busy. This is where they build a representation of what they are researching (according to the Challenge requirements), incorporating simple machines and movement into their creation. Teams utilize a motor to power movement in their model.

The Jr.FLL Challenge is **based on the same real-world topic** as the FIRST LEGO League (FLL) Challenge. It is **open-ended, designed for younger kids, and customizable for every ability level**.

## 2013/2014 - Junior FIRST LEGO League Challenge Disaster Blaster: Prepare – Respond – Recover

**Can Junior FIRST® LEGO® League teams help us master natural disasters?**

In the 2013/2014 DISASTER BLASTER<sup>SM</sup> Challenge, over 22,000 children ages 6 to 9 from 12 countries will explore the awe-inspiring storms, quakes, waves and more that we call natural disasters. Teams will learn how science, technology, engineering, and math impact our everyday lives while they get excited about future innovations.

**Brace yourself for DISASTER BLASTER!**



## HOW TO START A Junior *FIRST*<sup>®</sup> LEGO<sup>®</sup> League TEAM



- Teams must be registered at the national Jr.FLL to be part of the Jr.FLL program. Cost \$50 per team. [www.usfirst.org](http://www.usfirst.org) then click Jr.FLL Registration. Starts in August 2013.
  - Teams can use their own LEGO to create models or purchase a kit offered through LEGO Education for Jr.FLL teams at time of registration. Kit cost is approximately \$182.
  - Teams also pay a \$30 fee for participation in an Oregon Jr.FLL Expo organized by ORTOP. Various locations including OMSI. Fee includes free admission to OMSI on the day of the event.

- **Teams comprise 2-6 children, ages 6-9.**

Generally we consider the upper age limit of 9 to be "hard" and the lower limit of 6 to be "soft". If, after taking in the child's developmental level, you feel they are capable of participating on a team, then by all means they're allowed! We have found that kids younger than 6 can be very overwhelmed by the experience and those older than 9 may be bored or not wanting to "play with the little kids". We highly recommend having at least two members on a team, so that children may truly benefit from the team experience. Remember, for kids that are 9 to 14, *FIRST* offers the **FIRST LEGO League (FLL) program**.

- **FIRST does not create the teams or match children to teams.** Any adult can start a team at their local level. However, *FIRST* has a team matching system for parents to search for teams in their area accepting new members. Or, you may find other parents interested in starting a team together. [TryFIRST TeamUp!](#)  
To access *FIRST* TeamUP page go to [www.usfirst.org](http://www.usfirst.org) and click Jr.FLL.

- **Teams may be made up of neighborhood groups, school groups, home school organizations, Girl Scouts or Boy Scouts, family members, and after school programs.**
- **Jr.FLL teams generally meet for 6-8 weeks.** Each session should last for about one to two hours, once a week. Many teams meet after school or during another group activity, such as during a Girl Scout or Boy Scout troop meeting.



Oregon Robotics Tournament  
& Outreach Program

### Junior FIRST LEGO League in Oregon - [www.ortop.org/jfll](http://www.ortop.org/jfll)

The Oregon Robotics Tournament & Outreach Program (ORTOP) implements the Jr.FLL program in Oregon. ORTOP is a program of the Oregon University System. ORTOP collaborates with OMSI to produce the OMSI Jr.FLL Expos.



### IMPORTANT DATES FOR THE FALL SEASON- check [www.ortop.org/jfll](http://www.ortop.org/jfll) for dates.

**October 2013** – Information meeting for adults interested in starting a Jr.FLL team at OMSI  
Date to be announced.

**Spring 2014**– ORTOP will organize multiple Jr.FLL Expos. Schedule will be posted at [www.ortop.org/jfll](http://www.ortop.org/jfll)



**Need more information?**

**email: [jfll.oregon@gmail.com](mailto:jfll.oregon@gmail.com)**

**Request to be added to the Oregon Jr.FLL email list.**