



## HOW TO START A **Junior FIRST® LEGO®** League Team for the 2011 fall season.

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**.



### 2011 Jr.FLL Theme Challenge- **Snack Attack!**

Keeping Food Safe

Can Junior *FIRST* LEGO League teams master the science of safely preparing food?

In the 2011 Snack Attack Challenge, over 12,000 6 to 9 year olds from 5 countries will take a “hands on” approach to the topic of food safety by exploring how proper preparation and storage can help keep us healthy. Teams will learn about simple machines as they build a model made of LEGO® elements with a motorized moving part, and will create a team Show-Me Poster to represent their Snack Attack findings.



## HOW TO START A Jr.FLL TEAM

- Teams must be registered at the national Jr.FLL website to participate in the EXPO in Oregon. Cost \$25 per team. [www.usfirst.org](http://www.usfirst.org) then click Jr.FLL Registration starts in August 2011.
  - 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 \$140.
  - Teams also pay a \$30 fee for participation in the OMSI Jr.FLL Expo. 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.



### Jr.FLL 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 Expo.



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

**October 2011** – Information meeting for adults interested in starting a Jr.FLL team. Held at OMSI Date to be announced.

**March 2012** – Jr.FLL Expo events at OMSI and maybe a second location – Dates to be announced



in Fall 2011.

**Need more information?**

email [jrfl.oregon@gmail.com](mailto:jrfl.oregon@gmail.com) . Request to be added to the Oregon Jr.FLL email list.