

SWENext Newsletter K-8 - February 2017

Dream big with a cool film, register for FIRST, build a balloon car

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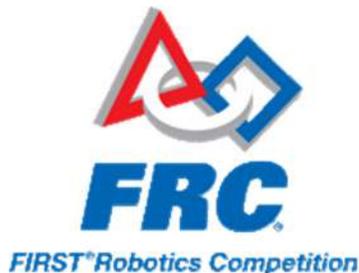


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Engineers Week is Going to be BIG this Year

DiscoverE, is releasing *Dream Big: Engineering Our World*, this month during Engineers' Week! This film takes an in depth look at what it takes to create some of our favorite inventions from an engineering perspective. [Click here](#) to find a theatre showing the film near you or visit the [official Dream Big site](#).

FIRST Tech Challenge



FIRST Robotics is now accepting registration from teams looking to take part in this year's FIRST Tech Challenge. FIRST Tech Challenge is a themed robot building competition for students in grades 7-12. This is a great off-season activity that is sure to keep your skills sharp. To learn more about the Tech Challenge [visit the competition webpage](#).

"Hidden Figures" Film Continues to Inspire

It is very rare to see positive and accurate media portrayals of both male and female STEM professionals. For those growing up aspiring to become scientists, engineers, or doctors, there are very few "heroes" to look up to in the media. The movie "Hidden Figures"

released earlier last month is the exception. The movie details the stories of three brave women who were pioneers at NASA at the start of the space program.



[Learn more about the film here.](#)

Animal Allies

Looking for a way to prepare for involvement in FIRST Robotics? Wanting to keep your skills sharp during the FIRST off season? Well, FIRST Lego League is for you! [Visit the FIRST webpage form for more information or to register a team!](#)



This Summer Program will be a GEM!

The Gains in the Education of Mathematics and Science (GEMS) program is a collection of Army-sponsored, summer STEM enrichment programs at U.S. Army Research Laboratories. One overarching mission drives this program: to interest fifth- through twelfth-grade students in STEM careers, especially those who might not otherwise consider becoming scientists or engineers. The STEM topics included: astrology, neuroscience, biochemistry, robotics, cyber security, environmental solutions, and nanotechnology!



The GEMS program is offered at U.S Army laboratories all over the country. Each laboratory hosts a unique program containing different topics and opportunities at each location. Laboratory programs also differ in the degree of technical advancement. For more

information regarding the program offered nearest you and other AEOP programs [visit here](#).

Engineering Activity

This month's activity is from Design Squad. Check out the video below for a preview of this month's balloon car activity! To see the full instructions on how to construct your balloon car and what materials you may need, [visit the Design Squad webpage for the details](#).



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