



Learning to Code Lego Robots and starting a First Lego League Team

If you don't have a robotics program in your school and are looking for a way to introduce the topic to your students, starting a FIRST Lego Robotics team as an extracurricular is definitely a strategy that many schools use as a first step. For less than an \$800 investment, you can purchase everything you need to organize your first team. You'll need a LEGO robotic which most likely will be the new Spike Prime platform (\$450) and a \$250 registration fee to create a team and get the new season's challenge mat and Lego models. Recruit your first team of 4th - 8th graders (a team can be as few as 2 and as many as 10 students) and you are ready to go.

For this workshop, we can either use your equipment or STEM4Learning also has a set of Lego robots that we can bring to use with your teachers. Depending on your interests and needs, we can focus just on the robotics portion of the program, although our suggestion will be to explore the entire scope of the competition including a community based service learning project and a presentation to share their learning with a set of judges during the competition. In a single day we are confident that even the most inexperienced coach can walk away ready to support a group of novice robotics engineers for a great rookie season. The First robotics program also provides great support materials for all coaches, including a step by step meeting guide that truly can provide a step by step framework from the first time you meet your team right up to how t

