Adventist Robotics League - Getting Started!

Participating in the Adventist Robotics League and FIRST LEGO League (ARL/FLL) is an amazing experience for both the kids and the adults involved. With your guidance, the children on your team are going to inspire you, and those around you, in surprising ways. If you have no technical background, don't be nervous. The team members are the ones who do the work. You only need to ask the questions and watch them ... GO!

ARL/FLL is more of a celebration than a "competition." Coaches help other coaches. Teams help other teams. We want everyone who participates – team member, coach, or event volunteer – to have a fulfilling experience. That's the reason we built ARL/FLL upon a set of Core Values that guides everything we do.

The following steps will give you an idea of what coaching an ARL/FLL team is all about. You will need to adjust it to your schedule, but you will see that anyone can get kids excited about science, technology, and engineering.

What do I need to know about robotics to begin this program?

Nothing. What you do need to have is a desire to explore an area of science that is going to impact your life and the lives of your students. All you need to have is a basic knowledge of computers and the ability to encourage your students to explore the world of robotics.

Are there teaching aids that make the program easy for the students to learn?

Carnegie-Mellon University has developed a very detailed computer program that takes the students through all the skills necessary to program the robot successfully. See our website for details.

How do I get started?

- 1. Learn about what we do. Visit www.adventistroboticsleague.net and read more about how to start a team.
- 2. Form a team and register. Your team may be in your classroom, church or community. Registration needs to take place before September 20 of each school year.
- 3. Order your materials.
- 4. Begin working on the challenge. Once the Challenge is released in late August, you will find all the documents you need on the FIRST website (www.firstinspires.org). These will include details of what the team is expected to complete this season as well as information about how your team will be judged at a tournament.
- 5. Apply for an ARL tournament through your local conference and/or union superintendents about starting one.
- 6. Attend a tournament and celebrate your success!

