

WEEK ONE

Getting To Know Each Other and The FLL Challenge Kit

The first meeting is unique in that parents should be included. After that, meetings should include only the team members. Most, if not all, of the first meeting will be spent discussing rules, the FLL philosophy, and taking care of some of the logistics of forming a team.

Lesson Goals

1. Team members and parents should understand the commitment that they are making.
2. Team members and parents should sign contracts.
3. Parents should understand their responsibilities and restrictions.
4. Team members and parents should understand general rules and FLL philosophy.
5. Ground rules for the meetings should be established.
6. A list of parent volunteers should be established.
7. Team members should get to know each other and start team building.

Technical Learning Goals

1. Team members should get familiar with the LEGO pieces in the kit.
2. Team members should get familiar with how to build a basic robot.
3. Team members should get familiar with the basics of the RCX programming environment.
4. Team members should get a sense of how engineering can affect programming and vice versa.

Coach Preparation

Background Reading

- FLL Coaches Manual Section 1 : Introduction
- FLL Coaches Manual Section 2 : Getting Started

Preparation Time : 1.5 hours

Equipment Preparation (directions for the following come with the Challenge Kit)

- Ready the FLL Challenge Kit for the kids to work with. Consider buying a toolbox or tackle box such as the one below to store all the pieces in. You can sort them before or alternatively, you can have the kids do this at the first meeting.
- Put batteries in RCX.
- Put batteries in transmitter.
- Hook up transmitter to the PC that will be used during the meetings.
- Install the RCX software on the PC that will be used during the meetings.
- Run the RCX tutorial on the CD that came with the FLL Challenge Kit.

Preparation Time : 2.5 hours (the majority of this time is running the RCX tutorial)

Equipment Requirements

At least one FLL Challenge Kit (2 RCX bricks would come in handy).
A PC with the RCX software installed and the transmitter attached.
Space to run the robot around.

Documents

Team Building Exercise : Picking a Team Name.

Technical Learning : Building and Programming your First Robot (for the kids).

Parental Release Form.



Toolbox for storing all the FLL Challenge Kit pieces.