

DoD

STARBASE

2.0

A Department of Defense Youth Program

2010–2011 Program Kick-Off

The WRIGHT- PATT STARBASE 2.0 after-school mentoring program kicked off its 2nd year at Spinning Hills Middle School in the Mad River School District.

STARBASE 2.0 groups together small numbers of 6th graders with three mentors; a classroom teacher, a Science, Technology, Engineering, Math (STEM) professional, and a college student. During the two hour, twice a month sessions, the five teams spend time working together on team explorations, setting attainable personal goals, and ex-

ploring topics and projects in the STEM area.

October 13, 2010 was the first meeting of the 2010–2011 school year. Students and mentors got acquainted through a balloon toss game, discussed ways to reach a “fun” goal, and chose a team name and a team color for their STARBASE 2.0 shirts. As part of the STEM exploration, teams were given Global Positioning System (GPS) units to go on a geo caching scavenger hunt.

Future meetings will provide multiple experiences for the students

and mentors. This includes using scanning electron microscopes in the labs at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, designing derby cars using Pro E Computer-Aided Design (CAD) computer software and 3D printer, and building and programming LEGO robots. To spark interest, the STARBASE 2.0 teams will be traveling to the FIRST LEGO-League regional competition at Wright State University.



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