

DoD

STARBASE

2.0

A Department of Defense Youth Program

Session One: The Kick-Off!

STARBASE 2.0, an after-school mentor program for sixth graders at Spinning Hills Middle School, began on January 6th, 2010 with huge success. The students joined one of five teams and met their mentors for the first time. Each team consists of 8-9 students, a teacher, a college student from Wright State University, and a STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) professional from Wright Patterson Air Force Base. Once in their individual classrooms, the students and mentors

learned each other's names through a balloon toss activity and fun facts about each other through a tangled web activity using a ball of yarn. Both activities allowed the teams to explore the importance of teamwork. The teams also learned goal-setting strategies through the bi-weekly Map It activity. This week's focus was on school. All students listed the following: 3 subjects I like, 4 things I'm good at, and 5 things I want to learn. The mentors helped the students develop real-

istic short-term strategies to meet one of their goals: learning about something new. To conclude the kick-off session, the mentors introduced the STEM activity which the students will continue throughout the rest of the school year: building a LEGO Mindstorms robot to complete the required missions. At the closing ceremony in June, the students will compete against the other teams by making their robots successfully complete the specific tasks (missions).

The next STARBASE 2.0 meeting will be Wednesday, January 20, 2010 from 4-6 pm.



Questions & Comments:
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