

Dear Teachers and Coaches,

Hopefully you are all staying warm and healthy! This is a busy and exciting time with the 2022 IN VEX Robotics State Championship coming up! This issue of TechTalk Tidbits has more information about the event, some other exciting upcoming opportunities, and several resources to simplify your life in the classroom and bring some new and fun experiences to your students. If we at TechPoint Foundation for Youth can do anything to help support you and your students please do not hesitate to ask. You are appreciated for your ongoing dedication to Indiana students!

Kind Regards, Jamie Inskeep jamie@techpointyouth.org

# **2022 IN VEX Robotics State Championship**

We are thrilled to back in-person at Lucas Oil Stadium for the IN VEX Robotics State Championship on Saturday, March 12. We are looking forward to hosting over 250 teams from across the state. We invite everyone to join us to celebrate and support Indiana robotics! Click the Digital Program button below to access maps, agendas, awards, and much more!

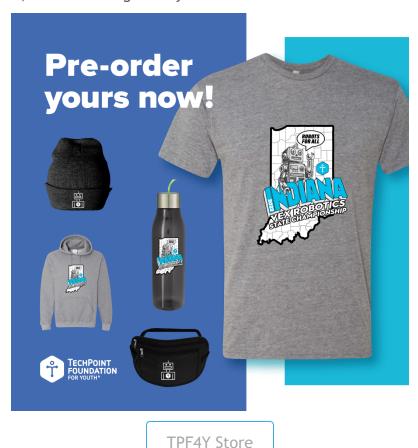


DIGITAL PROGRAM

Interested in volunteering at state? We still need 100+ volunteers to help with the state championship. All volunteers will be trained, and given an event t-shirt. Volunteer roles vary in time and responsibilities. Please help encourage your parents and students to help support the robotics community by being a volunteer at state!

VOLUNTEER

Celebrate the 2022 Indiana VEX Robotics State Championship in style with a comfy, limited edition State Championship t-shirt, hoodie, water bottle, fanny pack, or beanie! In previous years the State Champ swag has sold out QUICKLY, so guarantee your SWAG by pre-ordering now. SWAG will be available to pick up on the day of the event at the North entrance of Lucas Oil Stadium near the horseshoe, just present ID or receipt of this pre-order purchase. Pre-order sales close March 1st, so secure swag while you can.



2022-23 ROBOTICS GRANTS NOW OPEN!



NEW this year, we are offering VEX GO classroom robotics grants for Elementary teachers that do not currently have VEX GO equipment. VEX GO is the same equipment we're used to, but geared towards younger elementary students. After School Robotics Team Grants are also still available to Elementary, Middle, and High Schools and Non Profits that do not already have a VEX team. Recruitment grants are available to any returning VEX Robotics team that has recruited a new school to apply for the Robotics Start-up Grant. Click below for more information and to apply.

**ROBOTICS GRANTS** 



Indiana's first ever CSPDWeek is brought to you by the National Computer Science Teachers Association (CSTA), the Indiana CSTA Chapter, Nextech, and the Indiana Department of Education (IDOE). This summer, all Indiana public and public charter K-12 teachers are invited to come together from June 27 - July 1, 2022 to learn, network, create community, and continue to expand high-quality, inclusive, and rigorous Computer Science education for all K-12 students across the state of Indiana. This program will bring together dozens of professional development providers from across the nation and will be a week to remember.

During the summer experience, teachers will create professional learning communities that will remain intact throughout the year. These communities will meet 8 times throughout the 22-23 school year to continue their professional learning and build their local network of computer science teachers. For more information and to apply, click below.

All expenses are paid for participating teachers, including a generous stipend for their participation in CSPDWeek and follow-up professional learning throughout the year.

LEARN MORE

# **Girl Scouts Offers Reverse Field Trips**



Has the pandemic kept you from taking your students on traditional field trips? Want to give your students a great STEM experience without leaving school?

Girl Scouts offers reverse field trips that provide fun and engaging STEM workshops in your own space. For as little as \$6 per student, they provide the materials, staff and fun! Workshops are focused on various STEM and environmental education topics such as:

- Coding
- Living Things and the Environment
- Mechanical Engineering
- Math in Nature
- Robotics

MORE INFO



Boddle is a FREE math game for grades K-6 that makes learning fun and personalized. It uses AI to adapt and tailor practice and learning content to the right level for each child and keeps teachers in the loop on students' progress with real-time reports. The activities are connected to Indiana State Standards, differentiated to be accessible to all students, and fun and engaging for everyone!

# Did you miss our FREE online training?

If you are interested in Boddle but missed our training be sure to check out the recording of the training below.

## Use Boddle in Your Sub Plans

We know how hard it can be to prepare sub plans for your students when you need to be out of the classroom. Boddle makes it super easy with this Guest Teacher one-pager.

SUB ONE-PAGER

# **Career Exploration**



Jobs for the Future (JFF) Career Exploration Curriculum helps learners in grades 6 through 10 develop essential employability skills, explore STEM occupations, and better understand themselves and the world of work. The Possible Futures—Career Exploration Curriculum offers six units that help learners: explore STEM occupations (four units), develop essential employability skills, and better understand themselves and the world of work.

### Each unit includes:

12 lessons, each providing 45 minutes of learning time

• Each lesson is provided as a SCORM file for easy use in your Learning Management System

### **Learner worksheets** in a fillable PDF format

• Worksheets are also embedded within the SCORM file for each lesson

## Facilitator guide for each lesson with:

- Lesson overview for educator
- Lesson materials
- How-to guide for both educators and learners on using Flipgrid for asynchronous interactive engagement
- Extension and in-person activities
- Recommendations for shortened learning experiences

LEARN MORE



DiscoverE works to provide every student with a shared STEM experience and the resources, programs, and connections to improve the understanding of engineering through a united voice and a global distribution network. DiscoverE covers pre-k to work force and intersects at the points of corporate social responsibility, public affairs, and talent acquisition. This strategy enables organizational partners, volunteers, and educators to effectively reach millions of students, parents, and young adults with the message that engineers work with smart, inspiring people to invent, design, and create things that matter.

LEARN MORE

**Check out this Technology Tool!** 



Miro is an online collaborative whiteboard platform that enables teams to work effectively together, from brainstorming with digital sticky notes to planning and managing tasks through embedded video calls or online chats. Whether you're planning with other teachers or encouraging your students to work collaboratively, Miro is a tool worth checking out!

LEARN MORE

Do you have resources on your list that you just haven't had a chance to explore? Send them my way and I will be glad to look into them for you and review to make sure they're worth your time. In the meantime, contact me with any questions or concerns at:

jamie@techpointyouth.org

Interested in viewing previous issues of Tech Talk Tidbits? Check out previous issues HERE.







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