

## **FIRST® LEGO® League Jr. Discovery – Parent Guide**

Hello! Welcome to *FIRST®* LEGO® League Jr. Discovery. You'll soon be receiving all the equipment you need to run this fantastic Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths (STEM) programme with children aged between 4-6 years. The programme was originally designed to be delivered to a whole class of children, in school by the class teacher. With the unprecedented situation we find ourselves in, we thought why not adapt it so that parents can use it at home to keep their children entertained, engaged and having fun, all the while **learning** without even realising it!

Now that you've registered, you'll receive:

- 1 x Discovery bridge model – this is designed to be an idea spark for your children. Also in this box is a town building mat to build their ideas on. There's DUPLO® characters and five sets of Six Bricks – Six Bricks are short fun activities that cover a range of skills, such as memory, language or fine motor skills. There's lots of information about them in the Team Meeting Guide, on our [Teacher Resources page](#) or on our [How it Works page](#).
- Discover More sets – originally these were designed as take-home resources when delivered in school, but these will really come in handy at home too as you can use them as extra building bricks for the children's own ideas.
- Engineering Notebooks – for children to draw, write, annotate and improve their designs and ideas throughout their Engineering Design Process.
- IET Certificates – a lovely way to celebrate the achievements of the children at the end of the programme.
- Team Meeting Guide – this contains 10 detailed sessions which you can work through, or just take some ideas from, to guide you and your children.

Differences from the in-school version:

- More focus on parent-child interaction – the at-home version focuses on parent-child interactions, which are important for developing children's skills but also for challenging preconceptions about STEM subjects. By enjoying the activities together and realising how much fun problem-solving and engineering can be, we hope that both parent and child can start changing the way they view STEM subjects.
- No Celebration Event – the in-school version finishes with a Celebration Event as the 10<sup>th</sup> session, where children showcase all that they've learnt with their parents/carers and receive certificates. However, at home you'll get to see their wonderful learning and ideas the whole time! So why not show their learning to friends or family via video call in the 10<sup>th</sup> session and get the children to explain everything they've done? Or film your children showing what they've built and explaining what they've learnt, and post it on our social media – we've got loads of engineer followers that we're sure would love to see what they've created!
- STEAM Park – whilst we LOVE the STEAM Park, it's understandable that these can be costly for one household! We know that most homes have some amount of DUPLO or LEGO bricks lying around and these will work perfectly fine in place of the STEAM Park. All you need are as many bricks as you can find which the children will use to create and build their own designs. STEAM Parks are a fantastic investment though, and can be used for so many different things after you've done *FIRST* LEGO League Jr. Discovery – take a look online [here](#)

at some more uses for them, and you can order them from any LEGO Education distributor such as [Raising Robots](#):

## FAQs

### **I'm not a teacher! Can I still do this with my children at home?**

Absolutely! The Team Meeting Guide is really detailed and guides you through the whole programme with activities and suggested questions to help. Remember, the Team Meeting Guide is just a guide and you can follow it as closely or loosely as you like – let the children lead with what they find interesting about the topic and go on a learning exploration with them!

### **This all looks great fun, but isn't it just playing? I want to make sure my children are learning things!**

Play is the most powerful learning tool! When children are engaging in activities that they find fun and exciting, they develop their curiosity and understanding of the world around them and learn without even realising it. Playful learning is also a great way to develop communication, and language is a powerful learning tool – the more you can talk with your children as you play and learn, the greater their skills will grow.

### **Will there be any online help?**

Yes! We're planning on doing some free LIVE Facebook sessions, so keep an eye out on our social media pages for dates and join in! As well as this, our [Teacher Resources page](#) has loads of useful resources and videos to help, and our [website](#) has lots more information about the programme.