



# WPAFB Educational Outreach



INSPIRING STUDENTS IN STEM

## K-12 STEM ENQUIRER

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### Read Across America

The WPAFB Educational Outreach Office is excited to announce Read Across America will be back in person on **Friday, March 22nd, 2024!** The partnership with the National Museum of the United States Air Force remains strong and Base volunteers look forward to interacting with students once more, 'Celebrating a Nation of Diverse Readers'!

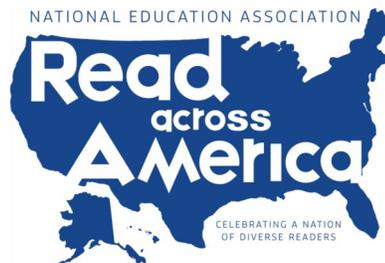
Educators can register class participation by [clicking here](#) to complete the registration form. *Spots are limited to 24 classes - so don't delay!*

Want to virtually participate in Read Across America? Visit the [NMUSAF website](#) for updates on how to watch the videos during the month of March!

Please [contact](#) the National Museum of the United States Air Force for additional information.

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NATIONAL MUSEUM OF THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE™

#### Join us next month...

Spring Job Shadow Day is Scheduled!

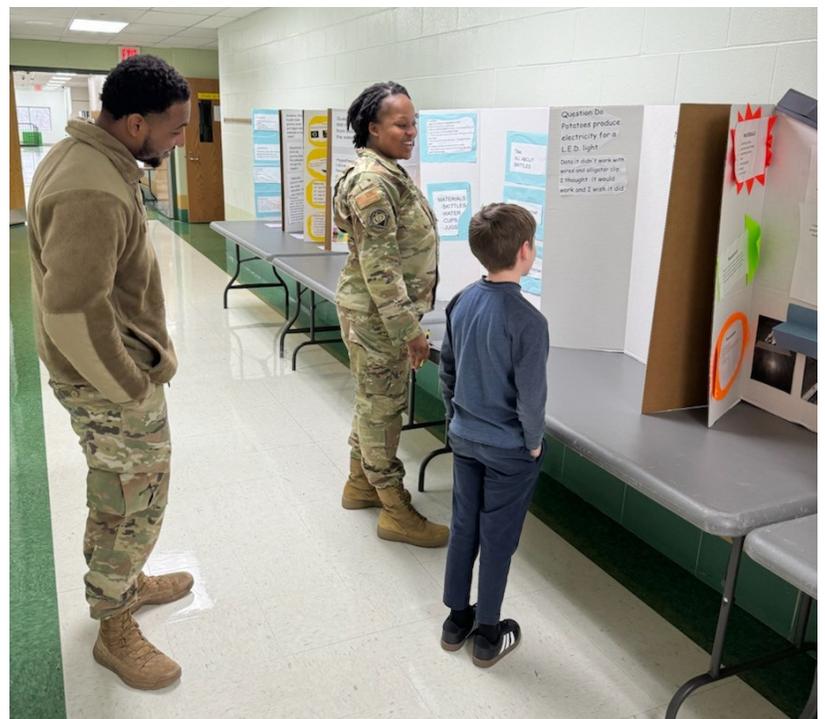
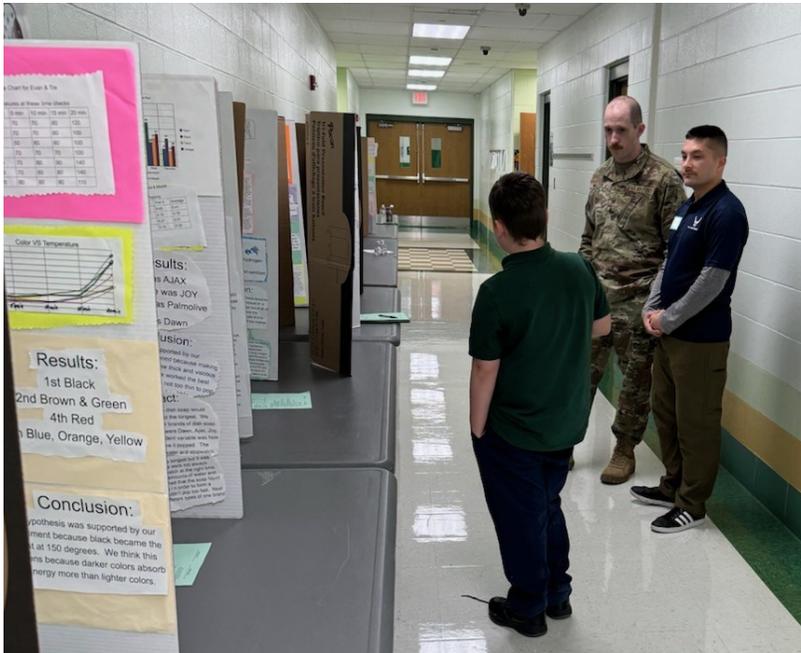


Students listen intently as Base volunteers read a story in 2020.

## Science Fairs are in Full Swing!

Local science fairs are happening across the Miami Valley! Base volunteers are participating as judges when interacting with students, asking them about the research completed on their projects. Volunteers have traveled to Beavercreek City Schools, Huber Heights City Schools, Charter Schools, Private Schools, Dayton Public Schools, and many more!

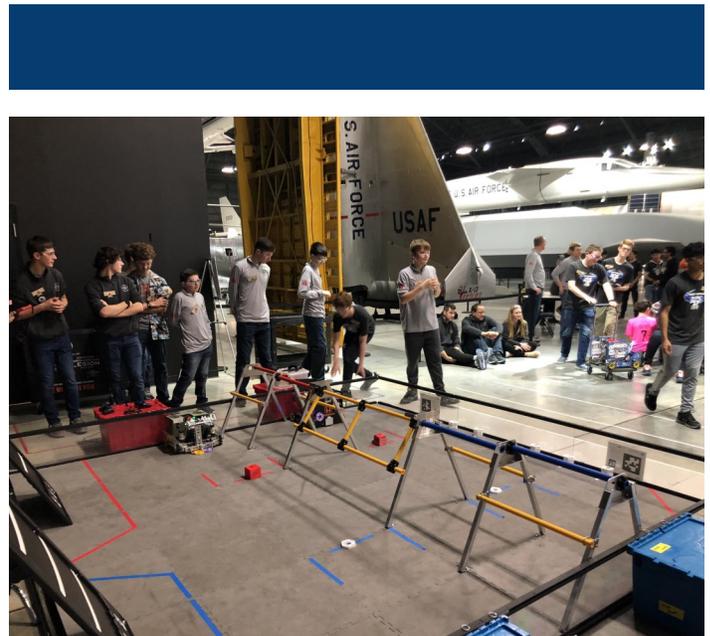
Educators can request support for school science fairs by visiting the Educational Outreach Office website [here](#). For additional information, please contact the program manager, [Kim Stultz DeHart](#).



# FIRST® Season Update

The *FIRST*® Tech Challenge and *FIRST*® LEGO® League Challenge seasons are in full swing with competitions taking place all around the state of Ohio. Teams are iterating on their robot designs, competing and collaborating with fellow teams, designing innovative components for their robots, practicing their teamwork skills, and so much more. All sights are ahead, looking at the State Championships that will take place at Hobart Arena in Troy the weekend of March 8-10.

Watch this space next month where we will list the teams who have qualified for the Ohio Championship! The next events are taking place at Miami University and Kent State University on February 3<sup>rd</sup>. [Click here](#) to watch the livestream planned for Miami University - check out the robots in action!

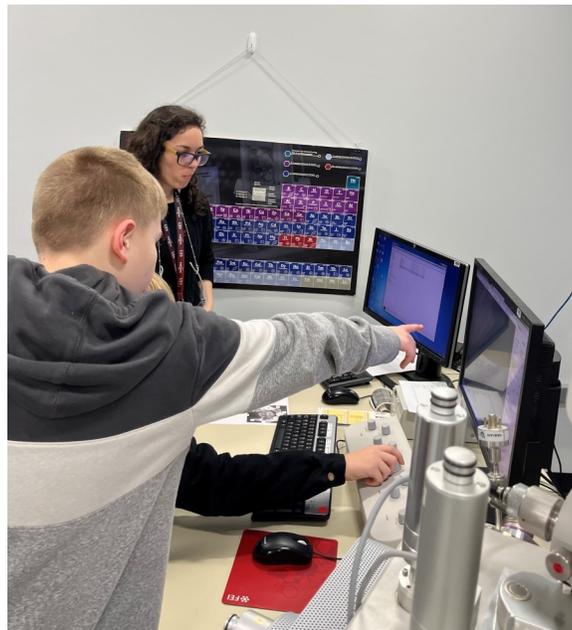


**FIRST<sup>®</sup> Season Update cont'd.**

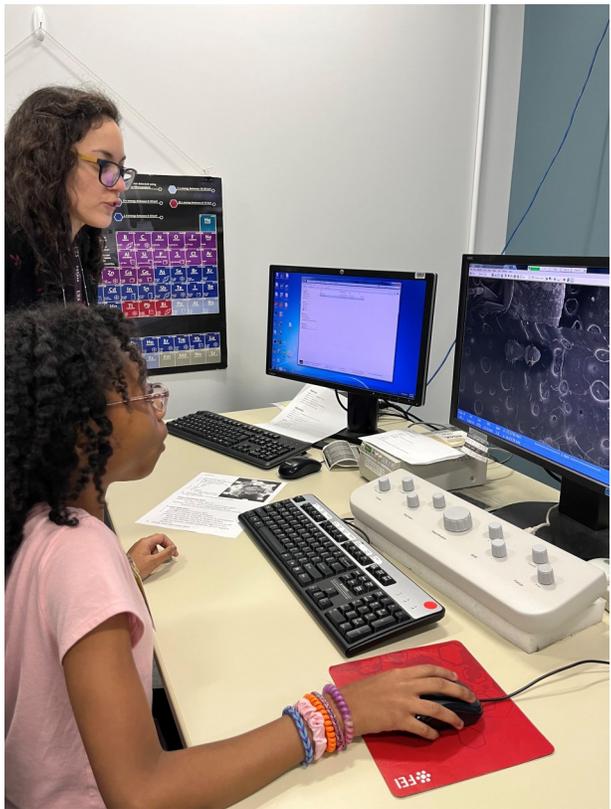


# SEMEDS Sessions

Students from George H. Gerke Elementary School (Franklin City Schools) visited the Scanning Electron Microscope (SEM) lab to meet the scientists behind the scenes and check out the world class equipment used while conducting their research!



SEMEDS Sessions cont'd.



Ant leg (pictured above).

## WOW! Workshops

The WOW! program offers FREE teacher workshops every summer, and this year a few have been added to the Spring.

Workshops will be held at SOITA (1205 E. Fifth Street, Dayton, OH 45402).

Feel free to customize workshops/days attending!

Contact the WOW! program manager, [Angel Callahan](#), with questions.



### Wednesday, March 13<sup>th</sup>

**9am to noon - [registration required!](#)**

Focus on learning and using Finch Robots and an intro to Ozobots and Sphero Indis

**1pm to 3pm - open house (*registration not required*)**

Allows for more time to work with some Tech Devices; Finch Robots, Ozobots, Sphero Bolts, Sphero Indis, and introducing the Bee Bots!

### Thursday, March 21<sup>st</sup>

**9am to Noon - [registration required!](#)**

Focus on learning and using Sphero Bolts and an intro to Ozobots and Sphero Indis

**1pm to 3pm - open house (*registration not required*)**

Allows for more time to work with some Tech Devices; Finch Robots, Ozobots, Sphero Bolts, Sphero Indis, and introducing the Bee Bots!

## Employee Spotlight

**Name:** *Jill Case (contractor)*

**Title:** *Instructor*

**Program:** *STARBASE*

**Years with the EO office:** *1 year*



**What do you enjoy most about your role in STARBASE?** *I work with an amazing team of skilled instructors who love kids. Additionally, we get to meet so many amazing kids and play each day! It's so much fun.*

**What is your favorite aspect of working with students in STEM?** *I love watching the kids enjoy science - sometimes for the first time ever! The smiles on their faces while they complete the challenges we present to them, and the knowledge they walk away with each day is amazing!*

**What accomplishment are you most proud of at STARBASE?** *I am most proud of learning to teach each of the 16+ lessons and being a team teacher with our amazing team of instructors.*

**If you had one superpower, what would it be and why?** *I would want to have the ability to travel anywhere at the snap of a finger! I would take vacations to places I've always dreams of visiting - like Egypt, Hawaii, and Australia! And I would take my family with me!*

