



EL MONTE CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

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NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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El Monte City School District Students Test New Lego Robots

EL MONTE – El Monte City School District students assembled colorful creations, tested touch sensors and programmed light-up emojis on battery packs during a series of Lego Spike Prime robot demonstrations on Nov. 7 and 8.

District teachers and students were among the first in the nation to test the unreleased Lego Spike Prime robot kits as part of a partnership with Lego that provides regular training and support for El Monte City teachers and students on new robotics technology.

One major update is the Spike Prime coding language, an easy-to-use tool similar to Scratch programming that has been created for students in sixth through eighth grades.

Educational Technologies Coordinator Jessica Fineberg-Pardini said Lego robots get students excited about science, technology, engineering, arts and math (STEAM) learning and careers.

Rio Vista School sixth-grader Giovanni Aviles said the District's Lego Robotics program has inspired him to pursue an engineering career because he enjoys building robots and learning coding languages.

"I think it's interesting to get to code and test out these robots that no one else has access to yet," Aviles said. "It's really great that Lego is bringing these robots to our schools because they help us learn and they're recreational."

The Lego Spike Prime robotic kits will be introduced into the District's Lego Robotics program in February 2020.

PHOTO CAPTIONS:

EMCSD_LEGOSPIKE: Rio Vista School sixth-graders Mikayla DeLaTorre (right) and Genesis Gutierrez assembly a Lego Spike Prime robot and code it to move with touch sensors during a demonstration on Nov. 7. The demonstration is a sneak peek of a robot that will be available through El Monte City School District's Lego Robotics program in 2020.

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