



**GBOU SCHOOL
NO. 1436
MOSCOW, RUSSIA**

Sparking Students' Imagination in Science with LEGO® MINDSTORMS® Education

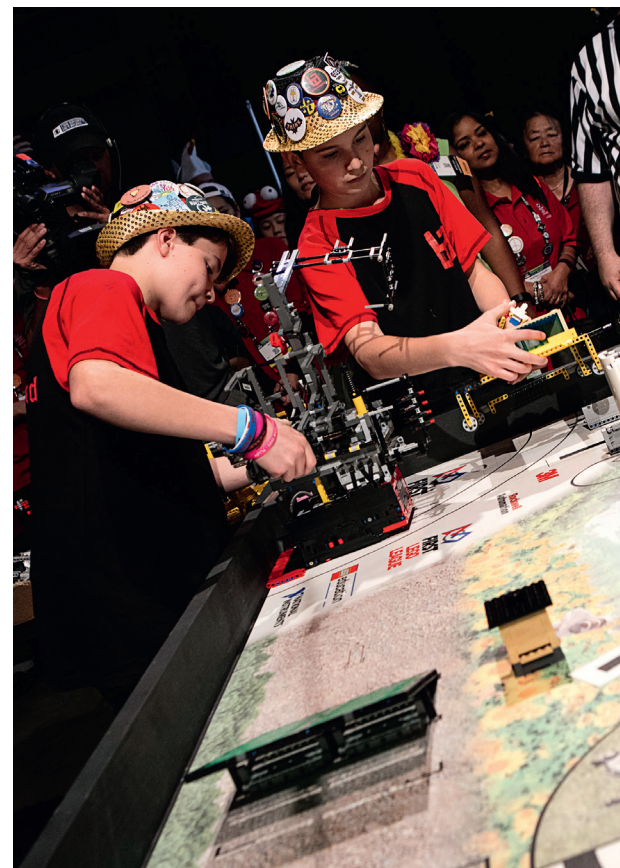
When physics teacher Galina Yurievna Maximova became interested in teaching robotics with LEGO® Education solutions, she had a steep learning curve, but borrowed help from her students. Galina teaches at the GBOU School No. 1436 in Moscow.

“Life does not stop after lessons at our school,” Galina says. “Once in the evening during the holidays, I was in the computer lab. I saw some eighth and ninth graders with LEGO® MINDSTORMS® Education RCX. I was fascinated by it at once. I asked the guys to tell me how to use it. They gave me two huge books in English and said that first I had to read them, and then I would understand everything. For two days, I read these books about the programming environment and MINDSTORMS before returning to my students. ‘Now we will teach you,’ said the boys.”

The robotics club at Galina’s school begins in third grade, with WeDo 2.0 lessons, an elementary coding solution from LEGO Education, for half of the class at a time. When they are ready, these students join a team and participate in robotics competitions.

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About LEGO Education

From preschool to middle school and beyond, LEGO Education provides a continuum of hands-on, playful learning tools that engage every student’s natural curiosity and help them develop the skills and confidence they’ll need in the future.



Initially, students do not work with LEGO MINDSTORMS. They first learn the types of connections, mechanical transmissions, basics of electricity, and working principles of motors with WeDo 2.0. “We make models on the technological maps,” Galina says. “When it is time to study serious programming, they go on to NXT and EV3.”

Galina believes LEGO MINDSTORMS activities spark each student’s unique scientific imagination and that is one of the reasons it is so popular with the students. Working on the project, each member of the team uses his or her best abilities. One person may have a talent for programming, another for engineering, and another, designing and installing. And when it comes

time to present the project, “You have to have a showman,” Galina says. These individual roles help students understand themselves, Galina believes. It also allows the students to see the different roles and skillsets that make up a team. This is important for when they are pursuing careers in STEM. Plus, seeing their ideas come to life is really exciting.

Galina thinks it’s important to keep the activities fun and playful. “The teaching would be slow without that,” she says. Galina is committed to understanding how students learn best and how LEGO MINDSTORMS can help all of her students succeed.