



Public Schools of Plainfield New Jersey

Office of Community Engagement

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PAAAS ROBOTICS TEAM PARTNERS WITH JEFFERSON SCHOOL

*To engage the next generation of learners and hopefully spark their interest,
to spread interest and awareness about science and engineering.*

Plainfield, NJ – December 18, 2018 - The PAAAS robotics team, The Deceptibots, joined a group of 5th graders at Jefferson Elementary School, today, to teach them about basic engineering concepts and using simple tools to create a moveable object.

The high school students assisted the fifth graders in building a small helicopter from a modelling kit donated by Home Depot. The pieces were already properly cut to size. The students had to assemble the helicopter, hammer in the nails, and insert the screws in place. In the end, the fifth graders were able to roll their helicopters and make the blades spin.

“Our students are working hard as they prepare to compete in the First Tech Challenge in 2019. They build robots for competition and this exchange helps them relax and share with others what they have learned,” said Daniel Gold, Robotics Instructor at Plainfield Public Schools Academy for the Arts and Advanced Studies (PAAAS).

Programing comes easy to Regis Halliday, one of the students from PAAAS who participated in the hour-long session. He said this type of event gives him the opportunity to learn and help others learn too. “I like helping the younger kids because I feel good about helping them understand new concepts. I feel as though I am their teacher for that moment and they are able to receive what I am giving them. I like doing that.”

Mr. Gold said it is very important to expose young children to robotics. He believes the benefits are two-fold. One the one hand, it gives the robotics team a way to share their interests within their own town. Additionally, it gives the Jefferson students an opportunity to do hands-on building, which might spark an interest in them in engineering and design.

The groups hope to engage in similar experiments throughout the year according to Mr. Gold. The team's outreach supervisor, Aaryn Brooks, a student who also organized this event, will be scheduling future meetings at Jefferson Elementary School.

For more information, please call 908-731-4333 or email gmontealegre@plainfield.k12.nj.us.



Regis Halliday, PAAAS Student, assisting Fifth Graders at Jefferson during engineering and design session.