



What's NXT for our kids?

MIT professor joins LEGO® MINDSTORMS® Education pre-launch campaign tour in Asia to talk about how to prepare kids for tomorrow's creative society.

Mitch Resnick is an MIT researcher and developer in new technologies, with a passion for products that engage children in creative learning experiences. He'll be sharing his ideas at a series of events in May and June, where the new MINDSTORMS Education and NXT platform will be unveiled to teachers and other adults working with youngsters.

The pre-launch event will include a demonstration of features of the new MINDSTORMS Education concept, such as the NXT software, on-brick programming options, new ultrasonic and sound sensors, servo motors and Bluetooth® technology.

Resnick's 10-day tour includes Singapore, Taipei, Beijing, Shanghai and Guangzhou. He'll be talking to educational robotics enthusiasts and newcomers alike about how youngsters develop vital skills such as communication, creativity, problem-solving and team-working as they build structures, work with mechanisms and use software programs to control the behaviors of their own creations. Resnick was a key player in development of the original MINDSTORMS platform from 1998.

"As I see it, success in the future, for individuals, for communities, for companies, for nations as a whole, will be based not on how much we know, but on our ability to think and act creatively," says Resnick. "My talk will discuss new technologies and new educational initiatives developed specifically to help children learn to design, invent, and express themselves creatively - so that they are prepared for life in the Creative Society."

Pre-launch Tour Schedule:

Singapore	29 th May	Singapore Science Centre
Taipei	1 st June	National Taiwan University
Beijing	4 th June	Beijing SuMen Gate Hotel
Shanghai	5 th June	Shanghai High School Auditorium
Guangzhou	6 th June	GuangDong Ministry of Education research building

MINDSTORMS Education will also be pre-launched in Japan early June, starting with an event in Tokyo on June 6th; the Philippines on June 22nd at the Bulwagang Karunungan, Department of Education; and Indonesia on July 21st at the University of Indonesia.

For more tour information, please contact:

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Additional Information:

The MINDSTORMS Education concept is developed specifically for school and after school settings. It consists of brick sets, programming tools and activity packs. The programming tool is developed by National Instruments and is based on LabVIEW™. Activity packs are developed for LEGO Education by Carnegie Mellon University's Robotics Academy and meet curriculum targets for science, technology, engineering and maths. MINDSTORMS Education will be launched in Asia from September onwards.

Resnick is Director of the Lifelong Kindergarten group at the Media Lab at Massachusetts Institute of Technology, USA, which develops and supports technologies that expand the range of what people can design, create and learn. He is also a co-founder of Computer Clubhouse, which is an international network of after school clubs in low-income communities, set up to help youngsters express themselves creatively with new technologies. Resnick has been involved in the LEGO Group's work with MINDSTORMS in educational settings for almost a decade.