

Outreach-in-a-Box: Discovering IT

Takeaway Tech – Resources for Learning and Fun

Excited about computer science and information technology? Here's a list of cool resources – virtual experiences on the web, robotics kits, camps and clubs, and career exploration sites – you can use anytime. You can find it and a bigger list of activities, clubs, camps, kits, career ideas and more at (URL TBD).

Fun with Programming and Robotics

Interactive Robotics - Museum of Science, Boston

Get busy online and build your own virtual robot. Requires Shockwave

<http://www.mos.org/exhibits/robot/index.html>

LEGO® Mindstorms™

Design and program real robots that do what you want them to do. Create a light-sensitive intruder alarm, or a robotic rover that can follow a trail, move around obstacles, and even duck into dark corners.

<http://mindstorms.lego.com/eng/products/ris/index.asp>

PicoCrickets

Plug lights, motors, and sensors into a Cricket, then write computer programs to tell it how to spin, light up, and play music. Create musical sculptures, interactive jewelry, dancing creatures, and other artistic inventions with Crickets.

<http://www.picocricket.com/index.html>

<http://www.handyboard.com/cricket/>

Computer Science Activities, Clubs, Camps and Workshops

If all the technical camps offered each year were listed in this brochure it would be the size of a phone book. Visit (URL TBD) for a list of programs around the country. Or check with the nearest university or ask a school computer science teacher for ideas.

Creative Media and Computing

Embroider your skateboard, light up your clothing, felt an iPod cocoon, stitch a robot, and more! Craft is the first project-based magazine dedicated to the world of out-there and edgy crafts. Get do-it-yourself advice from the 'zine or on the Craft Web site.

<http://craftzine.com/magazine/>

Leah Buechley's LED shirt

Use silver-coated thread and a microprocessor to create your own version of Leah's light-up tank top, and learn computing basics at the same time. Free pdf from Craft magazine.

<http://craftzine.com/images/craft/01/electrictanktop.pdf>

Make

Make magazine celebrates your right to tweak, hack, and bend any technology to your own will. Get do-it-yourself advice from the 'zine or on the Make Web site.

<http://www.makezine.com/>

Sally Ride Science Toy Challenge

Inventing toys is a great way to learn about science, engineering, and the design process. Accept astronaut Sally Ride's Toy Challenge you and your friends might just win a weekend VIP tour of NASA's Kennedy Space Center in Florida!

<http://www.toychallenge.com>



Switch

Switch is a do-it-yourself Web show that combines design, fashion and technology. Watch designers at work and check out lots of projects in the Learning Library.

<http://iheartswitch.com>

Future Scientists and Engineers of America (FSEA)

Want to start your own tech club? This national nonprofit organization supports after school technology clubs.

<http://www.fsea.org>

Girls Go Tech

Girl Scouts of the USA offers camps and programs where girls can explore their interests in science, math and technology.

<http://www.girlsgotech.org/>

Sally Ride Science Club

This science club for girls in grades 4 - 8 reflects astronaut Sally Ride's effort to interest young girls in science, math, and technology. The club features mentors, online chat, newsletters, and science festivals.

<http://imaginarylinesinc.com>

Career Exploration

Career Ideas for Kids Who Like Computers (book)

Take a quiz and learn if your future lies in the high-tech world of computers. Career Ideas for Kids Who Like Computers gives you the scoop on exciting careers including Artificial Intelligence, Computer Game Design, Computer Programming, Hardware Engineering, Multimedia, and more.

<http://www.careerideasforkids.com/computer.htm>

GetTech

Planning for your future will involve technology. As you plan your career, be aware of all the choices and options. Explore what GetTech has to offer you.

<http://www.gettech.org/default2.asp>

What Do You Like? Exploring Career Exploring Career Information

Bureau of Labor Statistics, 2006-07 Edition

Scout out careers in every field – including technical ones.

<http://www.bls.gov/k12/>

The Fun Works

Match your interests to fun and interesting careers in math, science, and technology. Explore different careers or take a quiz to see which is best for you.

<http://thefunworks.org/>