



GLOBAL TEACHING LABS IN KAZAKHSTAN

Host: Open Innovations Centers – Official Partner of LEGO Education Afterschool Programs

Locations: Almaty, Astana, Aktau

LEGO Education Afterschool Program Centers

Open Innovations Centers is an official exclusive partner of LEGO Education Afterschool Programs (hereafter LEAS centers) in Almaty, Aktau and Astana, Kazakhstan. Founder of the LEAS center is MIT Alumni Shukhrat Sadyrov, who is passionate about bringing high quality STEM education to Kazakhstan. There are 2 education centers in Almaty, one in Aktau and one in Astana that operate under exclusive license as an official partner of LEGO Education.

LEAS centers provide additional afterschool education to school kids in STEM subjects like Robotics, Programming, Engineering, Applied Math and Physics. All courses are designed by LEGO Education (a member of the LEGO Group). LEAS centers provide courses in 3 languages English, Russian and Kazakh.

Each student has a special workbook, a set of LEGO Education materials and a laptop. Each teacher participates in a special training program and is certified according to LEGO Education's standards.

LEAS Centers have 10 courses devoted to different aspects of STEM subjects. The most well-known courses are "Engineer," "Innovator," "Code Creator," and "World of Robotics." Each course has 48-65 hours of class work together with all necessary equipment from LEGO Education.

LEAS Centers and MIT

In January 2018, LEAS Centers organized the pilot Winter Innovations Science Camp taught by two MIT students, Samuel Majors and Cameron Arnet. High school kids from all city schools took open classes as a part of the Winter Innovations Science Camp.

The goal of the Science Camp is to inspire kids to learn more about technology, engineering, and robotics. In addition, the camp gave a unique opportunity to parents and kids to learn about MIT's approach to education, "Mens et Manus." At the same time, LEAS organized an Open Robotics Competition in Almaty for children from the camp and beyond. MIT students were among the jury. They also gave a talk about MIT to the audience of more than 200 people at the Science Seminar.

In January, 2019 LEAS will organize The II Science Camp in 3 cities – Almaty, Astana and Aktau. The age of participating kids will be from 7-14 years old. Expected number of participating kids in each city will be more than 200. MIT students will work together with LEAS centers' teachers (U.S. university graduates).

Number of invited MIT students

LEAS Centers would like to invite three MIT students majoring in engineering, computer sciences, robotics, etc. As a part of their experience in Kazakhstan we would like them to live with host families. One of the host families will be a family of Shukhrat Sadyrov (Sloan Fellow '15).

Taking into account that LEAS centers' teachers will fully support MIT students, we would like to cover as much students as possible, therefore we would prefer that MIT students teach separately.

Expected workshop days: Jan. 9-30, 2019.

Apart from teaching, MIT students will have a chance to enjoy winter in ski resorts, which are located within the city of Almaty, and to visit cultural events organized during winter holidays.

Funding:

All program expenses are covered, including airfare, housing, and a stipend (\$700/3 weeks).