

Deb Johnson of St. Peter, Minnesota started teaching STEM through FLL (*FIRST* LEGO League) over nine years ago. She has volunteered for High Tech Kids as a coach, judge and trainer. She has instructed over 350 rural Minnesota kids in FLL through after school classes, 4-H clubs, day and overnight camps. She has coached *FIRST* LEGO League teams for 5 years and has competed nationally and internationally for the last three years with her team: the Techno Travelers.

This summer she and her family will embark on a new adventure when they go to South Africa to support teams there for the 2010 – 2011 Biomedical FLL season. Deb will be teaching teachers, coaching coaches, and running clinics and classes for students of all ages interested in learning through LEGO robotics at the local schools and community meeting centers. She and her kids will be coaching and mentoring new teams to help them learn the skills necessary to have a positive experience their first year.

South Africa has been participating in FLL for years, however, some of the rural areas have little access to the opportunities FLL can provide students. Deb and her family will be targeting these high needs areas, specifically helping FLL grow and reaching students that have not had these great experiences to date. She is seeking support through monetary donations to purchase new materials for students, the donation of used LEGO materials, and laptops.