Dear Reader,

Welcome to the winter edition of the Child's Play Newsletter! We hope you and your little learners had a wonderful and relaxing holiday and New Year!

In this newsletter, we are excited to share a sneak peak of our upcoming "*Progressive Curriculum for KIBO - Coding and Robotics for Young Learners in K-2*"! This comprehensive guide includes 60 hours of lessons to use throughout the year when using KIBO.

We are also happy to announce our new **KIBO Ambassador Program**. This program was designed for KIBO "power users" to provide feedback on product and curriculum development, participate in events, and more. We invite you to learn more about the program (Note: Spaces are limited. See requirements for joining.)

Below you will see more information on an upcoming Virtual Information session for the **Tufts ECT Program**, our Winter/Springs **corporate events**, KIBO **media coverage** (including a Forbes article and appearing on the Dallas ABC News!) and a new **Coding 'Book Club'** you can join.
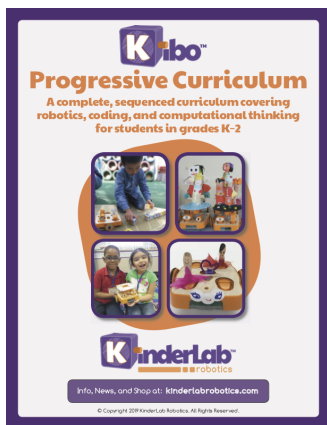
We look forward to continuing to provide playful and fun STEAM learning to children everywhere! Please stay in touch on Twitter and Facebook.

Mitch Rosenberg
Co-Founder and CEO

Shhhh...Our new Progressive Curriculum is coming soon!

We are hard at work on a new curriculum guide for KIBO to support K - 2 teachers. *The KIBO Progressive Curriculum* adapts and greatly expands the powerful research-backed curriculum in *Creating with KIBO* to provide **60 sequenced hours**

of standards-aligned lesson plans in coding, computational thinking, and engineering design. The guide is divided into Novice, Intermediate, and Advanced sections, with 20 hours of detailed lesson plans in each section, to support a comprehensive K - 2 pathway with KIBO.

Keep an eye out for the full press release and how you can order this new guide when announced at the FETC Conference at the end of January!

Become a KIBO Ambassador!

Are you passionate about providing innovative, age-appropriate robotics to your learners to enrich their STEAM learning? Interested in sharing your KIBO experiences and stories and collaborating on new product and curriculum ideas? If so, we invite you to apply to our new KIBO Ambassador Program!

Help us advocate for creative STEAM learning, get fun freebies, and provide feedback to shape future KIBO products and curriculum.

We celebrate our first set of Ambassadors and look forward to welcoming more:

- Katherine Blagden, Ayers Ryal Side Elementary
- David Cantler, Northampton Public Schools
- Kathryn Caster, Perry School K-8, and the Eliot Pearson Children's School
- Bryan Flaig, John Gill Elementary School
- Carmella Hughes, Nathaniel Morton Elementary School
- Angie Kalthoff, ISD 742/Code.org Facilitator/Learning Engineer Consultant
- Heather Lee, Idaho STEM Action Center
- Michael A. Marks, TSC Robotics
- Marsha Odell, Children's Computer Corner
- Dan Riles, Brookwood School
- Barbara Tennyson, Broadmeadow School

Be the next educator to join this select group! Apply to the KIBO Ambassador Program today!

Watch KIBO on ABC News in Dallas!!

LOW TECH ROBOT TEACHES KIDS HIGH TECH SKILLS

Samantha Culpepper, Assistant Principal at Chapel Hill Preparatory in Dallas, TX discusses KIBO and the benefits to young children with hands-on, screen-free learning on this ABC news segment.

Register for Tufts' ECT Virtual Info Session!

As many of you know, KIBO is the creation of Professor Marina Bers and her 20+ years of early childhood research at Tufts University's Department of Child Study & Human Development's DevTech Research Group.

You are invited to learn more about their Early Childhood Technology (ECT) Program during the upcoming virtual information session being held on Saturday, January 26th at 4pm (EST).

The ECT Program is open to educators and practitioners working with young children with coding and robotics in pre-K-2nd grade. Join the virtual session to learn more about the Early Childhood Technology Graduate Certificate Program.

Register Today! ➡

Recent Media Coverage

We have received quite a bit of [media coverage](#) throughout the holiday season as well as the first few days of the new year. Should you not have seen the news, some highlights include:

- [Triangulation: *Netcast with Jason Innes*](#) – Watch our own Jason Innes, Manager of Training and Curriculum Development, discuss KIBO and early childhood robotics education and research! In this in-depth one hour interview, Jason speaks about teaching STEAM concepts to kids with KIBO.

Episode 377 Jason Innes
Recorded Monday 17 December 2018

- [Forbes: *Inspire An Interest In STEM Careers With These Top Tech Toys*](#) – The author describes the best STEM products (including KIBO!) based on 4 key things: Creating not simply doing, Interacting not just watching, Applying knowledge, and Inspiring curiosity instead of memorizing info.
- [*EdSurge: Make Your Classroom More Like a Playground Than a Playpen Using 'Hard Fun*](#) – Prof. Marina Bers discusses a more playful environment where kids can become resilient, creative, problem-solvers, in a controlled, safe space like a playground.
- [Getting Smart: *Using Robots to Teach the 4 Cs to Young Students—Without Screen Time*](#) – Learn more about how Kathy Hay from Iowa's Keystone AEA uses KIBO to teach the 4 Cs (Critical thinking, Collaboration, Communication, Creativity) to young students—without screen time! She teaches the 4 C's at an early age, so students develop skills for future jobs.
- [eSchoolNews: *96 EdTech Predictions for K12 in 2019*](#) – 49 EdTech executives were asked to share their thoughts on their predictions for 2019. Jason shares his thoughts and EdTech predictions for K12 for 2019.
- [Tech&Learning: *Companies to Watch in 2019*](#) – KinderLab was listed as one of the educational companies to watch in 2019 in their December 2018/January 2019 edition.
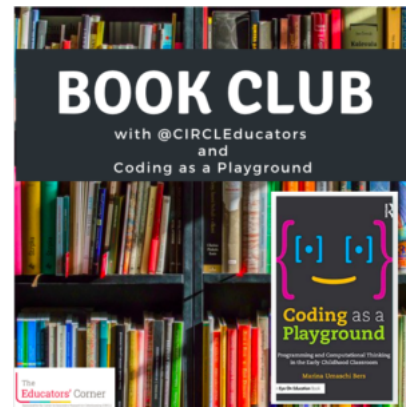

New "Coding as a Playground" Book Club!

We're sharing the news that one of our new KIBO Ambassadors, Angie Kalthoff, has created a **new online book club** and they will be reading KinderLab co-founder Marina Bers' book "*Coding as a Playground*"! Participate online from the comfort of your computer. :)

Coding as a Playground focuses on how young children (ages 7 and under) can engage in computational thinking, a process that can increase both their cognitive and social-emotional skills. In the book club, participants will discuss how to integrate coding into different curricular areas to promote literacy, math, science, engineering, and the arts through a project-based approach.

The first discussion topic will be posted on February 3rd. Learn more and join the book club today!

See us at these Winter/Spring Events!

Upcoming Webinar

We hope you can join us at Simple K-12's STEAM Webinar Day on January 26th - "Get Started with Makerspaces, Robotics, and Coding for the New Year!" Sign up today! Our session, "Build. Art. Code. Play: Integrating Robotics within K-2 Curriculum", is taking place at 11am (EST).

Corporate Events

- BAEYC Directors & Administrators Conference - January 18th, Framingham, MA
- 2018-19 Miami-Dade STEAM Expo - January 26th, Miami, FL
- FETC 2019 - January 27-30, Orlando, FL
- LearnLaunch Across Boundaries Conference - January 31 - February 1, Boston, MA
- TCEA 2019 - February 4-8, San Antonio, TX
- 2019 IntegratED and AcceleratED - February 20-22, Portland, OR
- UCET - March 5-6, Provo, Utah
- CUE 2018 - March 14-16, Palm Springs, CA
- The Montessori Event - March 21-24, Washington, DC
- NSBA 2019 Annual Conference - March 30-31, Philadelphia, PA

See more information on these events and our activities.

Want to share your experiences with KIBO?

We love to hear from our customers and learn some of the interesting and creative things they are doing with KIBO. Please check out the KIBO Resources website to see the classroom stories and activity ideas submitted by teachers.

Share your own stories, ideas and insights to help inspire others!

Want to change how you receive these emails?
You can update your preferences or unsubscribe from this list