



Southern Maine Gearbots Junior League – Kit Sorting 2017-18

As a coach of the Junior League Program of Southern Maine Gearbots, you have been provided with a kit containing the core materials needed to complete the season's Aqua Adventure Challenge Model.

This year kit collection will occur via kit sorting, inventory, and turn-in days following the District Meet. Coaches will be responsible for breaking down models and organizing kits. Coaches should remove any personal Lego components used in the models as Southern Maine Gearbots cannot be responsible for the return of personal property left in team kits.

Kit Sorting, Inventory, & Turn-in Dates

- **Saco Community Center**, April 14, 9am-2pm, 75 Franklin St, Saco, ME
- **St. Brigid School, Portland**, April 28, 9am-2pm, 695 Stevens Ave, Portland, ME

Kit Inventory

Each year kits are provided to coaches sorted and organized. It is your responsibility to maintain your kit and return it sorted and organized at the completion of the season. Included in this kit are the following:

1. 1 – 9580 LEGO WeDo Construction Set
2. 1 – 9689 Simple Machines Set
3. 1 – 45805 AQUA ADVENTURE Inspire Set
4. 7 – 9338 SERIOUS PLAY Mini-kits for Build to Express activities
5. Elements to build out models (1 box each – 1x & 2x Bricks)
6. Elements for more complex building (Technic Elements)
7. Regulation size 15" x 15" Base Plate, either Blue, Yellow, or Gray
8. Lego sorting tray
9. SM Gearbots Jr League Coaches' Guide Program Binder
10. Laptop computer, charger, and power cord/power strip

Kit Inventory, Sorting, and Organizing

Prior to turn in you will need to inventory, sort, and organize your kits. Use the following guide to help you in this process. It will help to have a table or carpet to spread out on. It will also help to have a few small food storage containers to hold elements during sorting.

Sorting the Jr League Kits

Our sorting guide is based on years of sorting sets. Plan to spend about three hours in a single block of time and working without interruptions. A detail oriented helper will reduce this time, perhaps even cutting it in half.

What you need

Gather the following together before you start. This will help you move along without interruption. Printed or digital copies of the WeDo, Simple Machines, Aqua Adventure Inspire Set, Serious Play Mini-Kit, 1x&2x Elements, and Misc Technic Element Inventory Sheets, as well as copies of the WeDo and Simple Machines Insert Cards. All of these may be downloaded from <http://www.smgearbots.org/coach-resources/>.

- Pen/Scratch paper
- **9580 WeDo & 9689 Simple Machines Insert Cards** (PDF) (for element placement in Sets)
- **WeDo Construction Set 9580 Inventory sheet** (PDF) (for element names/counts)
- **Simple Machines 9689 Inventory sheet** (PDF)
- **AQUA ADVENTURE Inspire Set 45805 Inventory sheet** (PDF)
- **AQUA ADVENTURE Element Survey** (PDF)
- **Serious Play Mini-Kit 9338 Inventory sheet** (PDF)
- **Serious Play Mini-Kit Element Survey** (PDF)
- **1x&2x Assorted Bricks Inventory sheet** (PDF)
- **Technic Elements Inventory sheet** (PDF)
- **Technic Elements Survey** (PDF)

Step-by-step Sorting Guide

Step One: Break Down Models

- Separate all elements. Little fingers are a big help with this!
- Remove all sets from tub and stack to side, but DON'T empty them!
- Place computer, charger, cords, baseplate, booklets, and binders in the empty tub.

Step Two: Pre-sort elements

- Depending on how well organized your team has kept your kit, you may want to pre-sort elements by type, size, and color. Use the sorting tray as well as additional muffin tins/food storage containers to help in this process. Use the tub lid as a sorting surface.

Step Three: Sort the WeDo and Simple Machines Sets

- Using the Sorting Cards, sort out elements for the WeDo and Simple Machines sets.
- Keep track of missing elements on scrap paper as you go along. You will likely find them later. Use one sheet per set and place with the set when finished.
- Using the Insert Card PDFs, sort elements into set container by location, (B)ottom, and top tray compartments (1,2,3,4).

Step Four: Inventory and Organize Remainder of Kit

- Recommended Sort Order: Using the Inventory Sheets and Element Surveys, sort the remainder of the kit sets in the following order: 1x&2x Bricks; Inspire Set; Mini-Kits (little baggies); and Misc. Technic Elements.
- It's in the details: Pay close attention to the number of holes, printed patterns, and shape of the elements. Some are very similar, especially faces!
- Remove the Big Stuff: Pull the larger elements out of the mix and sort them into piles.
- Sort by Size: Start with the larger elements and work down to the smaller elements.
- Sort by Color: When working through a size range, always follow the same color order when sorting. For example, when sorting the 1x&2x Bricks, always start with the Red, then move to White, and so on.
- Sorting the Inspire Set: If you do not still have the box, the Inspire Set can be placed in two separate gallon size food storage bags.
- Sorting The Serious Play Kits (baggies): These should all be identical. If you are missing elements for any of these, please make sure that as many are complete as possible and then write "incomplete" or "missing elements" on the baggies that are short parts.

Step Five: Confirm and complete a Missing Element Inventory

- Confirm that all the elements have been accounted for. It is easy to miss elements in the baggies, especially if you think that the team didn't use them.
- Put the missing element inventory in the top of each set tub or bag and put the correct matching lid on each set tub.
- Use these inventory lists at the kit sorting day to replenish your kits!

Step Six: Drop off kit on Drop-off Day

- Bring your team's sorted and inventoried kit to the drop off day as noted above. Your kit will be checked in.

Thank you for your help with this and with making this season a success!

We could use your help on the Kit Sorting Day: If you have some extra time and can lend a hand there will be coaches who could use a little help working through this process. Please consider helping out on the kit sorting days mentioned above.