

## **Engineering-Family Learning Lead Volunteer**

### **Engineering-Family Learning Lead Volunteer Description**

We are looking for volunteers to help families become inspired by doing family-suitable engineering projects – such as making buildings from cardboard and also inspiring young people to be our Engineers of the future.

We are looking for a Buildings Engineer or a Constructions Engineer or a Civil Engineer - you might be retired but would enjoy delivering 2 hour family learning workshops on an occasional and “as agreed” basis – probably during school holidays and possibly some Saturdays during the year.

All our libraries run a number of fun and exciting activities for families in the school holidays. Including family Learning Mathematics and IT and now we want to add Engineering to these activities.

Your challenge will be to come up with an idea suitable to a targeted young age group. These children will be learning with their family members and the activity will happen after consulting with the Family Learning Development Officer.

You will create experiences for our younger customers and help them fully enjoy and participate in projects with their families who will also be there to learn with their children.

We really want to give children a sense of excitement about what engineering is all about and a sense of accomplishment when finishing their project.

You will be the go-to person who can make and build with paper, cardboard or recycled materials while seeing the bigger picture of children’s learning experiences. Would you like to do this?

### **Who you are**

- You enjoy working with children and their families.
- You engage well with others and are passionate about running engineering projects in libraries.
- You are responsible and dependable, taking pride in your work.
- You are a good listener, and able and willing to engage with others.
- You are literate and have a genuine enjoyment for learning and sharing your own experiences with children and families.
- You are self-sufficient and can work independently
- You are able to engage in a positive way with children regarding their opinions concerning the activity they are engaged in.
- You love your library, and want to help us enhance our Family Learning activities as well as being an informal advocate for the library whilst delivering learning
- You have a good command of spoken English and possibly other community languages.
- You are a lifelong learner and are eager to share your skills

### **As a Family Learning Activity Volunteer (Engineering) you will:**

- Set up the learning space in the library where the activity will take place, manage the event and clear up afterwards.
- Prepare and organise the materials needed for the activity in consultation with the Development Officer. (participants will bring some along but the libraries will provide recycled materials)
- Really “own” your event and welcome children and parents as they arrive
- Help children with specific tasks such as cutting and sticking and building or engaging with them in discussion about engineering and what you can do or have done
- You will possess the right experience or training.
- Engage in conversations with the children and answer any questions that they might have.

### **Do you have what it takes?**

- Have a few hours to spare particularly in the School Holidays and as agreed with you
- Are an energetic person with loads of enthusiasm – you may be a retired engineer and would love to share your experience
- Full of creative ideas.

### **Why you should volunteer with Redbridge Libraries?**

- You will increase your chance to share your special skills with children in a professional setting.
- You may gain valuable experience and a reference if you volunteer regularly with us
- Personal satisfaction of helping young people and their families find out about what they might like to do in life and explore their potential

### **Anything else you should know?**

- You will need to have a satisfactory Security check carried out. This is something we will arrange for you.
- You will need to provide the contact details of two referees who are over 18, know you well but are not a member of your family.

### **Where and when you would be volunteering**

- You will volunteer at a Redbridge Library running Family Learning events/activities and offering your skills and experience of engineering.
- These activities take place in the school’s half term and the summer holiday. If you are a parent you will need to consider child care arrangements.
- Specific hours will be agreed with you. You will be required to arrive at least 30 mins before a session starts, and set up and stay behind for 30 minutes to clear up.
- You will be placed on a trial basis. Volunteers and activities are reviewed every six months.