K-12 Engineering Outreach

Purpose
Prof. Betty Lise Anderson leads an outreach program for engineering that is specifically designed to address the shrinking number of students going into the STEM fields and to increase the number of women and minorities in engineering. Along with more than 150 Ohio State student volunteers, Prof. Anderson visits schools, camps, and after-school organizations to engage kids by teaching them how to build real engineering projects, such as working speakers and motors that they can take home.

Impact
Prof. Anderson and her students have visited a total of 78 different schools, bringing hands-on engineering projects to more than 9,000 students, many of whom may never have thought they could be an engineer, or even had any idea what an engineer does.

Recent projects have emphasized energy, with kids building a DC motor and a Faraday flashlight. Another has students build a fingertip heart rate monitor using a potato chip clip, infrared LED, and some simple circuitry.

Contact
Betty Lise Anderson
Professor
College of Engineering
anderson.67@osu.edu
http://go.osu.edu/K12engineering

Ohio State Colleges/Units Involved
- College of Engineering
- Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering
- College of Engineering Minority Engineering Program
- College of Engineering Women in Engineering Program

Community Partners Involved
- 78 different schools
- 4H Club
- Vineyard Community Center
- Engineering Explorer Post
- YMCA Y-Club
- Young Scholars Program
- Wright Scholars
- Ohio Science and Engineering Talent Expansion Program

2015 Distinguished Community Engagement Award