



News Release

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District 196 Sixth-Graders Hone Engineering Skills

Field trip to The Works Museum in Bloomington provides unique learning experience

Bloomington, Minn. – All 2,120 District 196 sixth-graders are honing their engineering skills this fall by using hammers, drills, saws, and rubber bands to build catapults at The Works Museum in Bloomington, Minnesota.

The field trips, sponsored by Flint Hills Resources, fills a vital need for hands-on science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) curricula. At The Works Museum, workshop leaders used the Engineering Design Process to guide District 196 students through the planning, design, and building phases of the catapult project, followed by field testing and modifications to make the devices more powerful and accurate.

“When we’re able to augment time in the classroom with interactive fields trips, our students receive a more enriching educational experience,” said Cathy Kindem, Teaching and Learning Coordinator for District 196. “We are thankful for Flint Hills Resources’ generous sponsorships that make these unique learning opportunities possible.”

“The Works Museum provides essential STEM education to students across Minnesota. Our engineering programs inspire students to explore engineering and develop critical thinking skills, including creativity, problem solving and persistence. These are skills students need to succeed in school and beyond,” said Jill Measells, CEO of The Works Museum.

“The team at The Works Museum has a unique ability to inspire young minds,” said Heather Rein, Community Affairs Director for Flint Hills Resources. “We feel fortunate to partner with an organization where creativity and engineering go hand-in-hand with fun.”

About The Works Museum

With a mission to inspire the next generation of innovators, engineers, and creative problem-solvers, The Works Museum provides hands-on engineering and design experiences to more than 75,000 children and families each year. Our unique learning experiences inspire and engage kids

in engineering and STEM subjects. The Works Museum is one of the only engineering-focused museums for kids in the world. We encourage kids to design, build, innovate, and have fun! For regular hours and admission, membership, and camp information, visit www.theworks.org.

About Flint Hills Resources

Flint Hills Resources, LLC, through its subsidiaries, is an industry leader in refining, chemicals and biofuels, with operations primarily in Texas and the Midwest. Its manufacturing capability is built upon six decades of refining experience, and the company has expanded its operations through capital projects and acquisitions worth more than \$11 billion since 2002. Flint Hills Resources' subsidiaries produce and market gasoline, diesel, jet fuel, asphalt, ethanol, biodiesel, liquefied natural gas, olefins, polymers, intermediate chemicals, as well as base oils, corn oil, and dried distillers grain. The company is based in Wichita, Kansas, and its more than 4,900 employees strive to create value for customers and society. More information about the company is available at www.pinebendrefinery.com.

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