

# Engineering And Robotics Learned Young

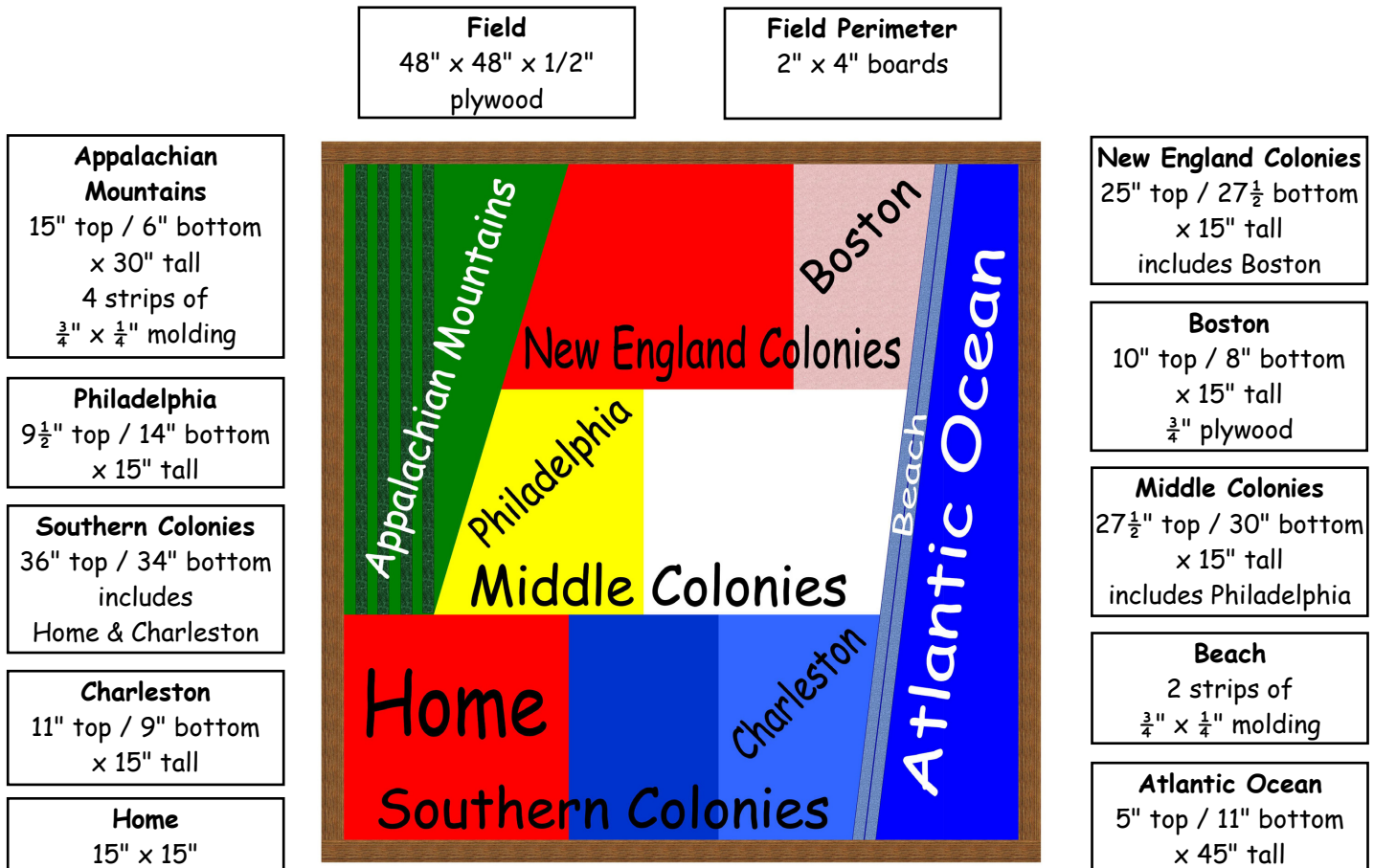
◆ EARLY ◆

## Spring 2010 Robotics Competition

Roboticists, you did it! The American Colonists ratified the United States Constitution and they thank you for helping them make an informed decision by distributing copies of the Declaration of Independence, Constitution, and Bill of Rights! The Colonists now need you to build a robot to help preserve these documents by returning them to Boston, Philadelphia, and Charleston. Please help the United States of America!

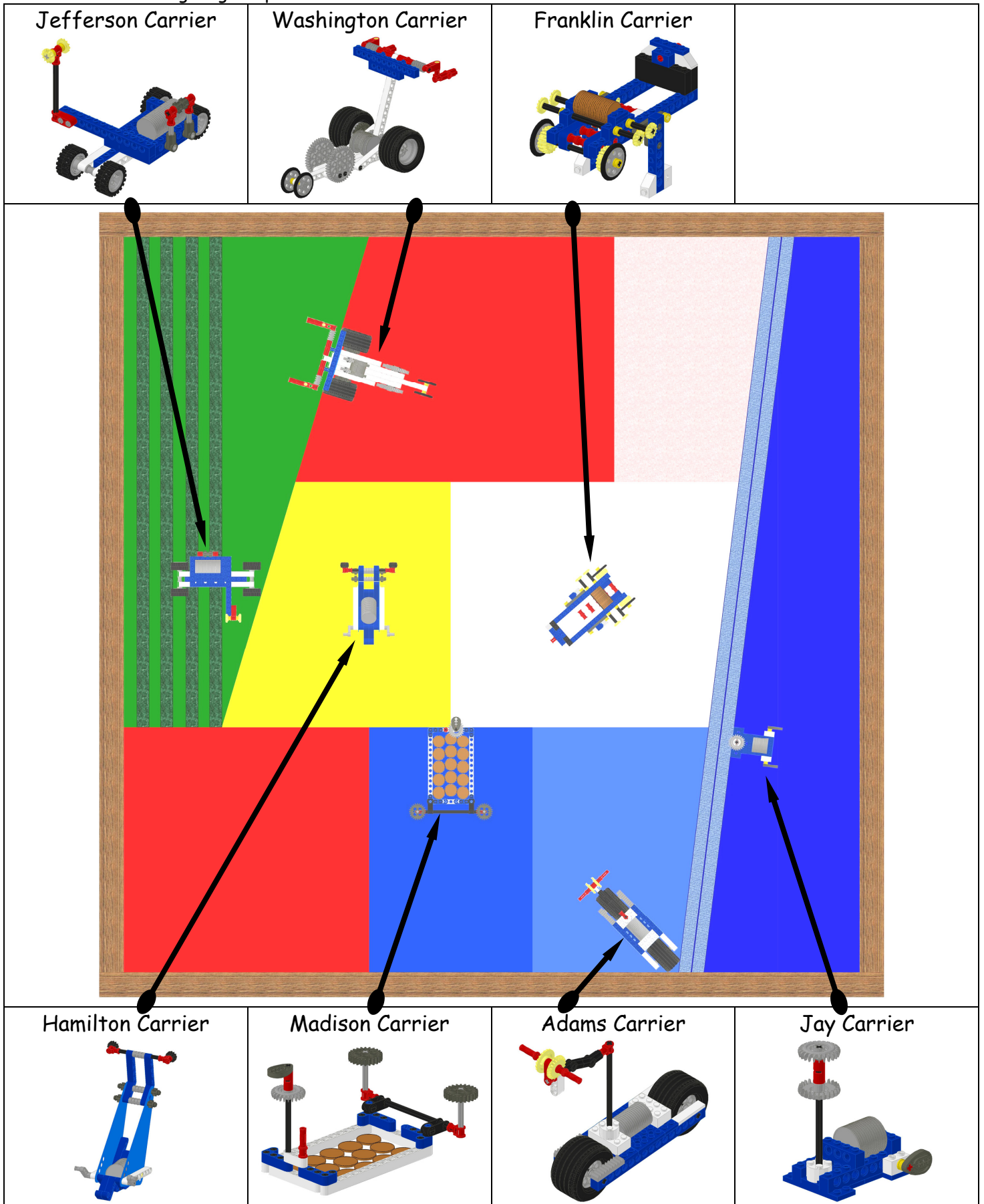
Below is everything that we know about the mission.

- The team must be ready to execute the mission for your EARLY Tournament.
- The equipment available for a team to build a robot or robots is 3 LEGO® Simple & Motorized Mechanisms Kits.
- The following diagram presents the environment that will be encountered.



United States of America

- The following diagram presents where the *Documents* and *Carriers* will be in the United States.



# Mission Rules

1. The team has 2 minutes to complete the mission.
2. There are 108 *Founding Documents* on the playing field at the beginning of each mission, represented by 36 quarters, 36 nickels, & 36 pennies. A nickel represents the *Declaration of Independence*, a quarter represents the *Constitution*, and a penny represents the *Bill of Rights*.
3. There are 7 *Document Carriers* on the playing field at the beginning of the mission constructed from one LEGO® Simple & Motorized Mechanisms kit.
4. The team's score is determined at the end of the 2-minute mission.
5. If a *Document* is moving when time expires, the referee will wait until the *Document* has stopped moving before determining the *Document's* scoring position.
6. There are three scoring zones: **CHARLESTON**, **PHILADELPHIA**, and **BOSTON**.
7. The goal of the mission is to place quarters in **BOSTON**, nickels in **PHILADELPHIA**, and pennies in **CHARLESTON**.
8. The team scores **3** points for each *Bill of Rights Document* (penny) in **CHARLESTON**.
9. The team scores **4** points for each *Declaration of Independence Document* (nickel) in **PHILADELPHIA**.
10. The team scores **5** points for each *Constitution Document* (quarter) in **BOSTON**.
11. There are two penalty zones: **APPALACHIAN MOUNTAINS** and **ATLANTIC OCEAN**. The **BEACH** is part of the **ATLANTIC OCEAN**.
12. The team is penalized **3** points for each *Document* in the **APPALACHIAN MOUNTAINS** or **ATLANTIC OCEAN**.
13. A *Document* breaking the plane of a scoring zone is considered in the scoring zone.
14. A *Document* in multiple zones simultaneously (scoring zone & non-scoring zone, scoring zone & penalty zone, penalty zone & non-scoring zone, etc.) is considered in the zone that results in the most points.
15. A *Document* may not go into the **HOME** area. Any *Document* that breaks the **HOME** will be removed from the field by the referee. In addition, if a *Document* breaks the plane of the **HOME** while on a *Carrier*, the *Carrier* along with all the *Documents* on the *Carrier* will be removed from the field. Consequently, teams may not gather *Documents* in the **HOME** and then take the *Documents* to the scoring zones. *Please note that Documents were allowed in the HOME in the EARLY Fall Challenge; this rule is intended to make the Spring Challenge more challenging than the Fall Challenge.*
16. Only the parts that are contained in three LEGO® Simple & Motorized Mechanisms kits along with six 20" controller extension wires may be used to construct the robot and attachments (i.e. no other materials such as glue may be used on the robot). The kit parts may not be altered.
17. The robot and all attachments must begin inside the **HOME** at the beginning of the 2-minute mission (i.e. no LEGO parts may be off the playing field when the mission begins). The parts do not have to be assembled together and the parts may be removed from and returned to the field during the 2-minute mission.

18. The **HOME** is the 15" x 15" boundary extended vertically (i.e. the robot may not extend over the line at the beginning of the mission).
19. The team may retrieve their robot without penalty when the robot is partially inside the **HOME** by lifting the robot vertically. After retrieving, the robot must be returned to the **HOME**.
20. Any **Document** or **Carrier** that remains with the robot when the robot is retrieved will be removed from the field by the referee.
21. If a team touches their robot, including parts that have become separated from the robot, that is outside of the **HOME**, a penalty of 10 points will be assessed.
22. If a robot is touched, the robot must be returned to the **HOME** to continue the mission.
23. The controllers and wires are NOT considered part of the robot.
24. The robot must start completely inside of the **HOME** every time it is returned to the **HOME** (i.e. after retrieving the robot, no part of the robot may be breaking the plane of the **HOME** when continuing the mission).
25. The robot shall not have any elastic stored energy (i.e. stretched rubber band) when the mission begins or when the robot is returned to the **HOME**, but elastic stored energy may be created with a motor.
26. The controller wire can only be used to provide electrical power to robot motors (i.e. it can not be used to drag or corral a robot, **Documents** or **Carriers**). If a controller wire is used illegally (referee's judgment), the team will be required to immediately place the robot back in the **HOME** to continue the mission.
27. If a **Carrier** is illegally touched, the **Carrier** along with any **Documents** it is carrying will be removed from the field.
28. A **Carrier** is never considered part of the robot.
29. Because **Documents** are very valuable, if a **Document** is ejected from the playing field, a penalty of 10 points will be assessed. No penalty will be assessed for **Documents** that are removed by a referee.
30. A score of zero will be awarded if penalties result in a negative score.
31. All referees' rulings are final.

Please contact [Mission.Control@EARLYrobotics.org](mailto:Mission.Control@EARLYrobotics.org) with any questions or comments.  
Thank you for maintaining the spirit of the game!