

Robotic Engineer

Think robots! What's the the first thing that comes to mind? Is it futuristic characters in a movie or video game?

Maybe your first thought was about vacuum cleaners or lawn mowers. Probably not! But robots now do chores like these in many homes.

Making life easier for humans is a big challenge for robotic engineers. So are robots that drive cars and fight cancer!

(Feel free to use the back of this sheet for longer answers)



The Future of Robots and You

Robots are machines programmed to do two types of things. Robots do things that people can't do. Robots also do things that people don't want to do. They are used to repeat the many steps involved in making products like cars or candy. They also do jobs that are too dangerous for humans. For instance, the military uses robots to defuse bombs.

One thing that robots cannot do is create themselves. That's where robotic engineers come in. They design robots to "think" and "act" in human-like ways. Robotic engineers must know a lot about math, science, and technology. They are problem-solvers and creative thinkers.

CHALLENGE #1: *If you had this career...*

What kind of training would you need?

Where could you find a job?

How much money could you earn?

Who would you help and how would you make a difference?

Why would (or wouldn't) you like doing a job like this?

CHALLENGE #2: *Think Tank*

If you could invent a robot, what would you want it to do? Think about your own life as a student. In what ways could a robot make your life easier (or more fun)?

Draw a picture and use words to describe how your robot would work. Start with the problem and show the steps your robot would make to solve it.

How could your robot make the world a better place for students? Be creative and get specific with your ideas.

