

On February 11, 2017 close to 200 children, ages 9 to 14 gathered to participate in the annual *FIRST*[®] *LEGO*[®] League Animal Allies Puerto Rico Championship. Each team was required to build and program a *LEGO*[®] *MINDSTORMS*[®] robot to complete missions on a thematic playing surface, and conduct research to discover what can be done to improve the way we interact with animals. Through hands-on experience and working in teams, children had a chance to explore a real-world issue to gain an appreciation for and interest in science and technology.

Antilles Schools had a participation of more than 30 students and walked away with 3 impressive achievements which gives the Antilles School District cause for great celebration and pride.

Congratulations to **Antilles Elementary School** and their coach **Ms. Barbara Dixon** on receiving the Rising Star Award which is given to a rookie team who, despite not receiving any Core Awards, demonstrated great potential for future competitions. The teams were unified and organized. They showed great Team Spirit and strong research skills. Congratulations **Team Sharks!**

Congratulations to **Antilles Middle School** and their coach **Mr. John Cannon** on receiving the Robot Design Award. This award recognizes a team that designs and develops a mechanically sound robot that is durable, efficient and highly capable of performing challenge missions. Congratulations **Team Blockheads!**

Finally, special congratulations to two Antilles students whose team received the Champion's Award. The Champion award recognizes a team that embodies the FLL experience by fully embracing Core Values while achieving excellence in both the Robot Game and Project. Congratulations **Alex Capo (AMS)** and **Axel Capo (AHS)**! Their team, the Tech Dragons, will now represent Puerto Rico in the World Festival in Texas!