



NEWS RELEASE

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Middle school children learn about some of Huntsville Center's careers

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Huntsville Center participated in a Huntsville Junior Achievement “Young Minds at Work” event at the Center May 17. Employees from Engineering, Installation Support and Programs Management, and the Chemical Demilitarization Directorate hosted a career exploration discussion for more than 150 middle school children from Discovery Middle School in Madison, Ala.

Boyce Ross, director of Engineering, led the career discussion sessions, and gave an overview about the type of work that is done at Huntsville Center. Huntsville Center presenters Pat Haas, director of Chemical Demilitarization; Sandy Wood, Engineering Directorate; and Allen Shelvin and Crystal Bennett-Echols, Installation Support and Programs Management Directorate, provided information about their career path, job and duties, requirements for the position and what they like about their job.

Ross highlighted the importance of selecting the right math and science course early on for careers in engineering. “We need bright and energetic young people like you to enter into engineering in the next eight to ten years,” Ross said. “I think being an engineer is a very exciting job. I have been doing this for more than 30 years, and still enjoy it.”

Leah Amos, president of Huntsville Junior Achievement, said the “Young Minds at Work” segment is relatively new to the Junior Achievement program. It is focused on empowering students with career knowledge gained through interaction with professionals at their actual work sites. She said the real-time experience within each organization is invaluable to students who participate.

“The students were very excited about the trip,” Amos said. “Your organization has given out good information about what career opportunities are available at Huntsville Center and the Army Corps of Engineers,” she said. “The speakers gave great career options for students who want to pursue a career in engineering.”