

The MIT Museum



Kids' gallery guide

A fun and interactive experience for the
under-12 crowd and their families

Created by Jessica Randall, Education & Public Programs Intern, Summer 2012

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Welcome to the MIT Museum!



This Museum highlights the work of many scientists, artists, and engineers at MIT as well as different ideas about science and technology. There are robots, moving art, cameras, video games, and lots of pictures for you to see!

As you walk through the second-floor galleries, this guide will help you learn about the objects and exhibits inside.

Robots & Beyond



The robots displayed in this gallery are organized into four categories. Be sure to watch the videos to learn more about the robots on display!

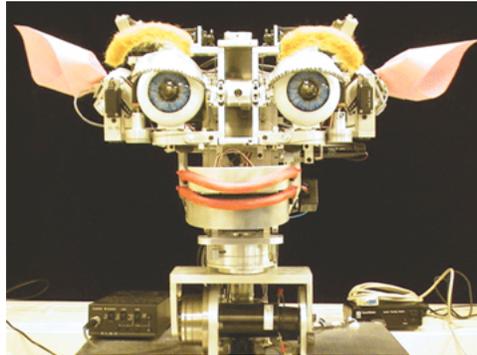
Sensing -- These robots get information about the world using sensors. Which of the five senses do they use?

Moving -- These robots were designed to move in different ways. What types of animals inspired their motion? Can you find them in the exhibit?

Robots & Beyond



Socializing - The robots and computer systems in this section were built to interact with humans. How do they communicate?



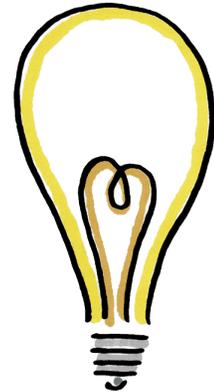
Reasoning & Learning - As humans, we are able to solve problems, and these robots were programmed to do the same. How do you think researchers try to teach a robot? What problems can occur?

Holography



A hologram is a special type of image of an object that uses interactions between light waves to show the three-dimensional properties of the object.

Many holograms are made using lasers. The light from the laser bounces off the object and is recorded on holographic film. When you shine light on the film, your eyes and brain recreate a 3D picture of the object.



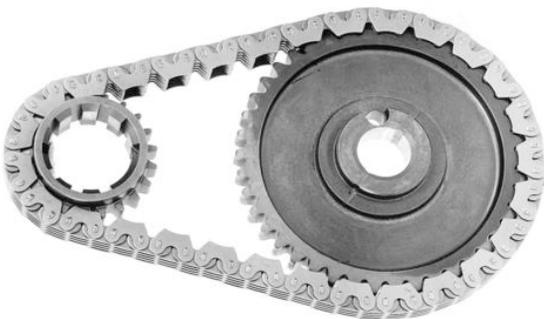
Which hologram is your favorite?
Why?



Gestural Engineering

Arthur Ganson is an artist who makes moving sculptures using gears, motors, and all sorts of other materials.

What is a gear? A gear is a disk that has teeth cut into it. When the teeth in two gears match up, they make each other move. There are many different types of gears!



Choose your favorite sculpture. How many gears are in it?



Kurtz Gallery for Photography

This gallery was established for the temporary display of photographs. Most exhibit are displayed for about six months. What exhibit is on display now? What story is it telling?

How is technology used in this exhibit?

If you were to create a display about your life, what would you include in it?



Images of Discovery

The works of three photographers are shown in this gallery. Who are the two female photographers?

A strobe light is a device that makes a series of regularly flashing lights. Why was a strobe light for many of the images in this exhibit (like the milk drop falling)?



Which photograph is your favorite?
Why?

Inventions: MIT Student Showcase



This exhibit presents a number of ideas that were developed by MIT students. Which do you like best? Do you need to use more than one of your five senses to appreciate it? (If so, which ones?)

If you were going to put an invention you created on display at the MIT Museum, what would it be? Think hard about this -- everyone in the world might see it!



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