

on 28 May 2012

KUCHING: Pupils of SK Green Road were captivated by the robotic booth at the 2012 CyberSains Programme.

They were particularly interested in two activities conducted by University Malaysia Sarawak (Unimas) students -- the interactive experience of the "Set Up A Robot" programme and the "Boe-Bot" demonstration.

The pupils were seen listening attentively on Saturday when the Unimas students explained how to assemble a small robot that can be stimulated to move using sound, and they were curious about the self-navigating "Boe-Bot".

"These children are very interested in robots. Hopefully they will want to become robot experts one day," said Peter Jong, 23, a third-year mechanical engineering student from Unimas, while he was surrounded by about a dozen SK Green Road pupils.

The "Boe-Bot" was able to move around an oval circuit of white background, using only a black line as a direction-finding guide through its infrared "line follower" sensors.

The robot originally had some specific tasks, but the students took three weeks to make alterations, which include eight sensors and receivers instead of the original two to make the direction-finder more accurate, and giving more power to the robot by supplying it with 27V instead of the original 6V.

"We also equipped it with a bigger set of wheels, of softer materials, to make it move even faster," said Peter, who added the original robot would have completed the circuit in 120 seconds, and the modified one could do it in 15 seconds.

extracted from nst.