

Meet Andre Jefferson, age 11

Andre has always explored the world with curiosity. He has a great sense of wonder. At age three Andre became interested in dinosaurs and quickly learned not only the names of 70 dinosaurs but their height, length, weight, what they ate, and where they lived.



From dinosaurs to Legos, in just a few short years Andre soon became adept at the schematics of Lego manuals. Like many kids, he began designing his own creations but his imagination led him to the idea of using these creations to make action features with his mom's Flip camera. He then started filming his own parkour stunts by experimenting with the camera – framing, lighting, sound, editing and other techniques like fast motion, slow motion and reverse action.

Andre became a fan of scientific websites especially ones that showed how things work. He is passionate about learning and understanding the world around him. The websites brought science to life for him with their videography.

Andre's inquisitive nature pointed him to learning about video cameras. He went online to read product reviews of video cameras and found the camera that had the capabilities he envisioned for his own science experiments.

One of these experiments took place in September 2011. Andre became intrigued with kinetics after he saw a video by the Kinetic King. Andre's friend taught him how to make a Cobra Weave with popsicle sticks. The tension of the weave causes a chain reaction where the sticks fly into the air. Weaving together a trail of 1000 sticks through his house, Andre filmed the reaction, then edited and posted the video on his YouTube channel (coolvids317). The "new record 1000 sticks HD!!! video went viral. It has been shared on numerous blogs and websites with over 2 million views.

Andre has since been interviewed many times about kinetics and his video. A special invitation from Anderson Cooper took Andre and his family to New York City where he appeared on "Anderson," the Anderson Cooper talk show. Andre made a Cobra weave of 1400 sticks to the delight of Anderson Cooper and the audience, and himself. He was recently on Nickelodeon's Figure it Out game show.

Andre has a pending world record for: Guinness World Record Longest Stick Bomb which he built with his friend. They set up 11,000 sticks. 6900 detonated.

Andre is curious, kind, patient, creative and a keen observer of the world around him. It is only natural that Andre's goal is to learn something new each day!

Recent Accomplishments:

TEDx Youth talk, Indianapolis Event, January 2013

Pitch Feast Participant and Presenter, February 2013

Guinness World Record of 6900 stick Stick Bomb (pending)

Andre has appeared on the following television programs:

Anderson Cooper Show, November 2011

Wish TV 8, November 2011

Fox 59, November 2011, March 2012

Discovery Channel, Canada, October 2011

Right This Minute, Interview, October 2011

PBS WFYI, The Friday Zone, March 2012

Nickelodeon, Figure it Out, May 2012

Andre has appeared in the following print publications and radio programs:

Indianapolis Star, November 2011, March 2012, August 2013

Broad Ripple Gazette, March 2012

Smiley Radio Show, WZPL, November 2011

Indy's News Center, WIBC, March 2012

Andre has provided workshops and demonstrations:

Indiana Math and Science Academy

Art of the Soul Studio

Butler Lab School

Hoosier Academy

Presenter, Louisville Science Center, Engineering Week

Andre's video has been presented on numerous programs and internet outlets:

Good Morning America

Engineering Today

Boing Boing

Reddit

2 million views on YouTube