



Odyssey of the Mind®

Creativity

Problem-Solving

Teamwork

What is Odyssey of the Mind (O.M)?

Odyssey of the Mind is an international educational program that provides creative problem-solving opportunities for students from kindergarten through college. The students apply their creativity to solve problems that range from building mechanical devices to presenting their own interpretation of literary classics. They will work in a group of 5-7 to select a problem, brainstorm & develop solutions and implement their ideas. It is 100% student driven with only guidance and clarification from their coach.

Why should a student participate?

- Allows kids to use their imaginations to interpret and solve complex problems in a FUN way.
- Promotes interest in STEAM
- Helps develop divergent, independent thinking abilities
- Helps develop real life communication, teamwork and brainstorming skills
- Rewards creativity and calculated risk taking

Who is involved?

- Participants - Can be K-College, but compete within age Divisions. Division is determined by oldest participant. The teams consist of 5-7 participants; mixed age groups are encouraged.
- Coaches - 1-2 parent coaches per group
- Parents - provide transportation to meetings and regional competitions

What kind of problems are involved?

Synopses of 2018 problems are available at -

<https://www.odysseyofthemind.com/p/2018-long-term-problem-synopsis/>

What are the logistics?

- Teams meet once a week for 1 hr to brainstorm and develop solutions at a place of their choosing from October through February. Teams can meet as frequently as desired.
- All teams participate in regional challenges
- Some teams may advance to state levels and beyond.

Where can I find more information?

- For more information, please join us on Thursday, September 21st @ 6 pm at Wilchester Elementary for an informational session on Odyssey Of the Mind or reach out to Anju Divakaran (anjudivakaran@gmail.com).
- Go to the website @ www.odysseyofthemind.com.