



WHO PARTICIPATES IN DESTINATION IMAGINATION?

Each year, 150,000 students worldwide participate in Destination Imagination. Founded in 1982, Destination Imagination has impacted more than 1.5 million alumni in 48 U.S. States and 50 countries. Many of those same DI participants are now making the world a better place through various STEM and fine arts career fields. Famous alumni include actor Zac Efron (High School Musical), author and actor Chris Colfer (Glee), Olympic gold medalist Maelle Ricker, and engineer Simon Dodd. Haven't heard of him? Simon Dodd is an M.I.T. Graduate who holds 26 patents and volunteers as Team Manager for his son's DI team!

HOW DO WE GET STARTED?

Typically, teams are started in schools and your school may already be involved. Your first stop should be to contact your Gifted/Talented Facilitator. If your team has not had teams participate recently, ask if that teacher will help you check to see if there is any other parent/student interest. South Metro Destination Imagination can make this easy by providing materials to help stimulate student interest and by helping to organize and run a parent information meeting.

HOW MUCH WILL IT COST AND WHAT IS THE TIME COMMITMENT?

The cost of participation is comparable to scouting or playing on a recreational sports team. Some schools and/or PTOs may elect to help cover some of the team costs. Teams meet at their own convenience with an adult volunteer (parent/faculty member) Team Manager making it easy to work around other activities. Team Managers are given a Roadmap resource to guide them as they lead the team and they have great support from other Team Managers and South Metro DI officials. Most DI teams meet through the winter months for about an hour and a half each week, with time commitment increasing for extra practice and preparation time as they draw closer to the tournament, much like other competitive teams.

WHERE CAN WE GET MORE INFORMATION?

South Metro Regional Director: Connie Ackerman
303-688-4496 or email ConnieAckerman@comcast.net

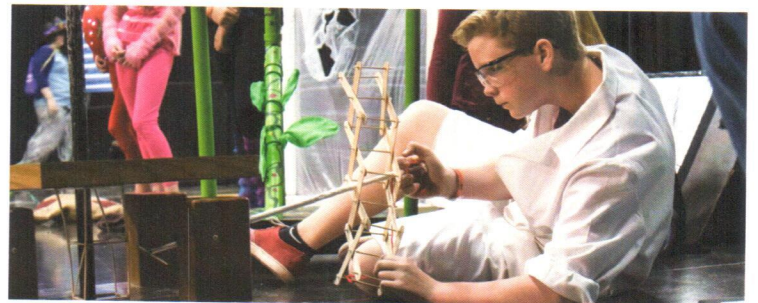
www.DestinationImagination.org

www.dicolorado.com

For a look at actual performances, go to YouTube and search for Destination Imagination Performances.

IF YOUR CHILD IS CREATIVE...

is crazy about puzzles, loves to paint and draw, can build anything out of cardboard boxes, writes amazing stories, thinks up whimsical new worlds, has a flair for drama and acting, is totally into science, or has rewired your toaster into a working time machine (or wants to), then you may have a Destination Imagination child.



WHAT IS DESTINATION IMAGINATION?

Destination Imagination (DI) is an international, educational program that gives kids an amazing outlet for their creativity while teaching them leadership, teamwork, positive thinking, project management and so much more. Teams of 2 to 7 kids from 3rd grade through university level solve one of six open-ended Challenges (Scientific, Structural, Fine Arts, Service Learning, Improvisation, or Technical) in their own unique ways and present their solutions at Regional Tournaments in late February or early March. Teams also solve an on-the-spot Instant Challenge at the tournaments where they must think quickly on their feet and work together to solve a problem in around five minutes. There's even a noncompetitive Rising Stars! Category with a special challenge for K-2nd grade. Winners advance to the Affiliate (state/country) Tournament, and winners at the Affiliate Tournament move on to Global Finals to compete against more than 1400 teams from around the world.

WHY SHOULD MY CHILD BE INVOLVED IN DESTINATION IMAGINATION?

Teams involved in DI learn higher order reasoning and learn to excel in creative and critical thinking, collaborative problem solving, and project management. Students who have participated in Destination Imagination say they believe participation helped them improve their grades, and do better in school, improved their self-confidence, helped them become better communicators, enhanced their respect for others and improved their creativity and problem solving skills.

WHEN AND WHERE WILL MY CHILD'S TEAM PRESENT THEIR CHALLENGE SOLUTION?

The South Metro region includes Douglas County schools, Littleton Public schools, Englewood Schools, Sheridan schools and South Park schools. The South Metro Region usually holds their tournament in the first two weeks of March however we depend on the availability of a suitable performance venue,