



Odyssey of the Mind

Informational / Organizational Meeting

For Berthoud Elementary School

Students and Parents

■ 6:30 p.m. ■ Monday, October 11 ■ BES Room 203

Do you like to...build contraptions or structures? Share your creative side? Perform dramatic or humorous skits? Share ideas? Solve problems? Think in different ways? Have fun?

Then Odyssey of the Mind is for you!

What is OM?

The Odyssey of the Mind teaches students to learn creative problem-solving methods while having fun in the process. By tapping into creativity, and through encouraging imaginative paths to problem-solving, students learn skills that will provide them with the ability to solve problems -- great and small -- for a lifetime.

What do you do in Odyssey of the Mind?

- Students learn to work together and develop team-building skills.
- Students learn to examine problems and to identify the real challenge without limiting the possible solutions and their potential success.
- The creative-thinking process is nurtured and developed as a problem-solving tool.
- Students of all types will find something that will appeal to them.
- The fun of participation leads to an elevated interest in regular classroom curricula.
- Teachers have a program to further provide students with a well-rounded education.

Who Participates?

OM at Berthoud Elementary School is open to all students in grades K-5. Teams of up to 7 students will meet with their coach(es) to select one of the five long-term problems and set up a practice schedule. **The number of teams we will have will depend on the number of adults willing to serve as coaches.**

Please return the attached forms to your child's teacher by Monday, October 4, 2010.

Student Application to Participate - Students and parents together need to fill out a student application if they would like to participate.

Parent Volunteer Form - We need many parents willing to serve as coaches and assistants. We can't do it without you! (The Thompson School District requires a TSD Volunteer Background Check Consent form to be completed by all adults participating.)

For more information, please contact
Diane McInturff, G/T Specialist @ BES
mcinturffd@thompson.k12.co.us
970-613-7563

Check out these websites for more information on Odyssey of the Mind:

www.odysseyofthemind.com

www.coloradoodyssey.org

Berthoud Elementary School
Odyssey of the Mind
Student Application to Participate 2010 - 11

Name _____

Date of Birth _____ Grade _____

Primary Phone Number _____

Secondary Phone Number _____

Email _____

Parents' Names _____

Days/Times you are available for team meetings _____

Other after school commitments you have _____

Do you have any previous experience with Odyssey of the Mind? If yes, please explain.

Why are you interested in participating in Odyssey of the Mind at Berthoud Elementary?

What strengths do you possess that might benefit an OM team?



**Please return to your homeroom teacher by
Monday, October 4, 2010**

Berthoud Elementary School
Odyssey of the Mind
 Student Application to Participate, 2010-11

Prioritize your interest in this year's problems (rank all, 1-5):

1 - first choice

5 - last choice

		Rank
Extreme Mouse Mobiles	Grades 3-5	
As Good as Gold...berg	Grades 3-5	
Classics...Le Tour Guide	Grades 3-5	
Unhinged Structure	Grades 3-5	
Full Circle	Grades 3-5	

Money Maker (Primary, Grades K-2) _____

(Primary students may only participate in the primary problem.)



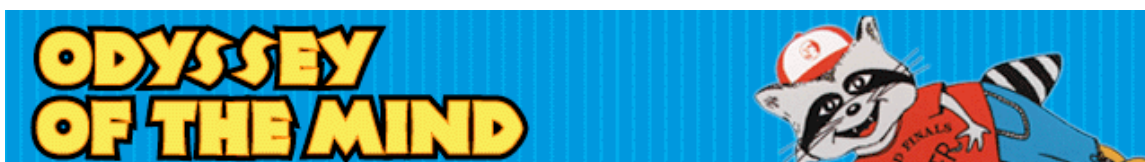
We feel confident that we can fulfill the commitment required of Odyssey of the Mind participants, recognizing that we are part of a team. We understand that student participants will be expected to follow Berthoud Elementary School rules at all times during meetings and competitions.

Student Applicant Signature _____

Parent/Guardian Signature _____

Date Application Completed _____

Please return to your homeroom teacher by
 Monday, October 4, 2010



Berthoud Elementary School

Odyssey of the Mind

Adult Volunteer Application

Name _____

Primary Phone Number _____

Secondary Phone Number _____

Email _____

Days/Times you are available for team meetings _____

Other after school commitments you have _____

Do you have any previous experience with Odyssey of the Mind? If yes, please explain.

I am interested in serving as a Coach _____ Assistant Coach _____ Volunteer _____

What strengths do you possess that might benefit an OM team?

**Please return to your child's homeroom teacher by
Monday, October 4, 2010**



2010-11 Long-Term Problem Synopses

All problems have an 8-minute time limit.

Problem 1: Extreme Mouse Mobiles

This problem requires teams to design, build, and run vehicles that use mousetraps as their only source of energy. The Mouse Mobiles will travel a course that has segments with different challenges. The team can choose from assorted tasks such as driving through a tunnel, raising a flag, hitting a target, changing direction, making a delivery, and will also perform two team-created challenges. The running of the Mouse Mobiles will be presented in a performance with a team-created theme.

Divisions: I, II, III & IV. Cost limit: \$145.

Problem 2: As Good as Gold...berg

Teams will present an uncomplicated existing item that is used in a simple and effective way to complete a real life task. The teams will also create their own solution, a device made out of an unnecessarily complex series of components that will perform the same task as the existing item. The performance will include an inventor character and a marketing plan/sales pitch for its creation.

Divisions: I, II & III. Cost limit: \$145.

Problem 3: Classics . . . Lé Tour Guide

Teams will create and present an original performance where a classical character acts as a Tour Guide. The tour will make three stops including one that will be a team-created location. During the tour an inanimate object will show signs of life, the Tour Guide will give the wrong explanation about something, and will give a creative explanation about why it is important to guard and secure a worthless item.

Divisions: I, II, III & IV. Cost limit: \$125.

Problem 4: Unhinged Structure

The problem is to design and build a solution using only balsa wood and glue that folds into the team's structure without coming apart. The team may use material other than balsa wood and glue to serve as a hinge. The team will test its "folded" structure by placing as much weight as possible on it during a performance that also includes three different objects that change appearance by being folded or unfolded.

Divisions: I, II, III & IV. Cost limit: \$145.

Problem 5: Full Circle

The problem is to create and present a humorous performance where something changes form or appearance at least three times and eventually undergoes a final change where it returns to its original form and appearance. The team will signal the audience each time there is a change. The performance will include a very silly character, a very serious character, a song and dance, and a surprise ending. **Sponsored by NASA.**



Divisions: I, II, III & IV. Cost limit: \$125.

Primary Problem: Money Maker

The team is to create and present a humorous performance about a Money Maker character that tries to make money from wild ideas. The Money Maker will fail three times but will finally succeed. There will be another character that thinks all of the ideas are great and encourages the Money Maker to keep trying out his wild ideas. The performance will also include a commercial, a customer, and a real life example of an actual successful "wild" idea.

Grades K-2. Cost limit: \$125.

THOMPSON SCHOOL DISTRICT R2-J

BACKGROUND CHECK QUESTIONNAIRE AND CONSENT FORM

VOLUNTEERS

The foregoing information will not be used to automatically disqualify a volunteer without reference to the nature and seriousness of the offense; the time elapsed since its commission and its relatedness to volunteer activities in the district.

How long have you lived in Colorado? _____

Previous state(s) of residence? _____

Have you ever been employed by Thompson School District?

☐ Yes

☐ No

If so, when? _____

Where? _____

Have you ever been dismissed or have you ever been requested to resign from any position for immoral or unprofessional conduct or for unfitness for service? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Have you been convicted of a felony or a misdemeanor (other than minor traffic offenses)? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Are you currently under investigation for any traffic violation or other offense? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Has your driver's license ever been suspended or revoked? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Have you ever had an accident resulting in death or injuries to others? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If your answer is "yes" to any of the above questions please provide complete details on a separate sheet stating date, charge, place and action taken.

Would you object to Thompson School District R2-J running a security check on you? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Do you now hold a valid Colorado driver's license? ☐ No ☐ Yes Give Number: _____

Have you had any moving traffic violations in the last five (5) years? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If yes, please list violation(s) on a separate page.

I hereby authorize any employer, law enforcement agency, administrator, state agency, institution or private information bureau that has any record or knowledge of my criminal history or motor vehicle record to provide the Thompson School District any such information. Permission is granted to be released by any state or federal agency.

Signature _____ Date _____

Full Name (Please type of print legibly) _____ Date of Birth _____

Driver License Number _____ State License Issued _____