

Chartiers Valley Odyssey of the Mind

2018





Celebrating "Outside the Box" Thinking

What is Odyssey of the Mind? OM turns 40!

- An international program that provides creative problem solving opportunities from K-12
- Kids apply their creativity to solve problems that can range from building a mechanical device to presenting their interpretations of literary classics

The Benefits of OM Include: Teamwork, Cooperation, & Divergent Thinking = 21st Century Skills



- Learn to respect the ideas of others
- Evaluate ideas and make decisions as a group
- Work within a budget to manage money
- Work within a time limit
- Learn many ways to solve a problem
- Understand that sometimes the process is more important than the end result

The Two Components of OM:

- Long Term – Solving and presenting the solution to a problem the team has worked to solve over several months
- Spontaneous – Solving a problem given to the team at the tournament to solve on the spot.

The Long-Term Problem:

**8 minute original team performance:
costumes, scenery, script**

Primary (K-2)

Classic

Vehicle

Technical

Balsa Wood

Humorous

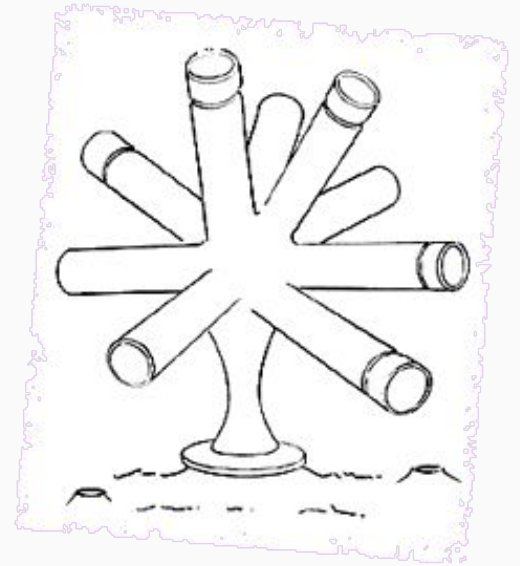
Spontaneous:

- Five team members compete
- Practice problems available from school & internet.
- Three types of problems
 - Verbal
 - Hands-on
 - Combination verbal/hands-on

Spontaneous Verbal Example

This item is found on the planet Twinkle.

Your problem is to say something about it
or what its use might be.



Team Membership

- No minimum number on a team, but 5 to 7 is recommended
- Team Members may not be removed from the roster once they've contributed to the long term problem in any degree
- A team with less than seven members may add to their roster, at any time, without penalty
- Teams may have members from multiple schools
- A Division I team (Gr. 3-5) may have some members that are K-2

OM Coaching ~ Who Can Coach? Coaches come from all professions and walks of life.

Each OM team must have at least one adult coach, 18 years or older. Having an assistant coach will lessen the demands assumed by one person. Common example, one coach does Long Term and the other does Spontaneous

Role of the Coach – **“Hands-on”** for kids, **“Hands-off”** for adults

Supervision, scheduling, logistics

Guidance, snacks, and encouragement

OM Judges

- May be a relative, friend, or neighbor
- Team: 1 Long Term Problem Judge per team
- Membership: 1 Spontaneous judge & 1 volunteer per membership
- January 27th Training; March 4 Judge's Training

Next Steps:

- Generate Interest
 - Have your child seek out other interested students at school
 - Form a Team – Find kids & judges
 - Meet the parents
 - Make your schedule – When will you meet each week?
 - Pick a problem
 - Register through the school – January 15. 2018 registration deadline

Why OM?

- It is worth every bit of time & effort!
- OM is an activity that you and your child will always remember.



OM FAQs

- What time commitment would I expect as a coach?
- How often should the team meet?
- Where do we get materials for costumes and scenery?
- If we already have materials do we have to count the cost against our limit?
- If I sign up my child, do they automatically get on a team?

Important Dates

CVSD Parent Meeting - October 3, 2017

Coaches' Training - Keystone Oaks HS, Saturday, November 4, 2017

Team Acting Workshop - Little Lake Theatre, Saturday, December 3, 2017

Judges' Training - RMU - Saturday, January 27, 2018

Spontaneous Fun Day @ Linton MS, Penn Hills - Feb. 10, 2018

Western PA Regional OM Competition - Moon Area SD - Saturday, March 3, 2018