



Westlake Elementary Odyssey of the Mind

What is Odyssey of the Mind?

Odyssey of the Mind is a creative problem-solving program that encourages kids to think, create and bring their ideas to life. Combining STEM and the arts into education, OotM helps students to think outside the box.

Participants are organized by grade level into teams of between five and seven students. Teams choose one of several open-ended problems to work on, and will meet outside of school on a weekly basis. Participants come up with their solution by creating structures, vehicles, devices, props, sets, costumes, etc. Teams can then present their solution at a regional competition held at Westlake High School.

Some problems are more artistic or performance-based, some are more engineering based (building structures out of balsa wood, creating moving vehicles, etc.), and others are a combination.

The most important part of OotM is that kids must do everything themselves. From coming up with ideas to gathering materials and creating the solution they have imagined, kids have to do it all without outside assistance.

**If your child is interested in joining this year's team, please fill out the form below
and return it to the office by Thursday, Sep 13th**

(A parent's meeting with additional information on OotM will be held on Sep 12th at 8:30am in the MPR)

Child Name _____

Grade _____

Parent Name _____

Parent Email _____

Interested in Coaching? _____

(Although the kids do all the work, coaches are there to help the team keep focused and learn how to organize their ideas. Every team needs a volunteer coach. If you may be interested in being a coach, please let us know, and we can provide more detailed information.)