



**Description:** Odyssey of the Mind teaches students to learn creative problem-solving methods while having fun in the process. For more than twenty years, this unique program has helped teachers and coaches generate excitement in their students. 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. The Odyssey of the Mind teaches students how to think divergently by providing open-ended problems that appeal to a wide range of interests. Students learn how to identify challenges and to think creatively to solve those problems. They are free to express their ideas and suggestions without fear of criticism. The creative problem-solving process rewards thinking "outside of the box." While conventional thinking has an important place in a well-rounded education, students need to learn how to think creatively and productively.

**Sponsored by:** Carroll Independent School District

**Grade Levels:**

- Division I - Each team member is less than 12 years of age or is in a grade no higher than 5th grade (USA standard\*) on May 1, 2007.
- Division II - The team does not qualify for Division I AND each team member is less than 15 years of age or in a grade no higher than 8th grade (USA standard\*) on May 1, 2007.
- Division III - The team does not qualify for Divisions I or II AND each team member is attending school (K-12) full time on May 1, 2007.

**Where:** depends on the Coach; although most teams meet either at school or at a Coach's home

**When:** depends on the Coach & team members schedules; mostly after school or on weekends

**Dates:** September through May - Year-long program

**Parental Involvement Required:** 1-2 parents to act as Coaches; team members parents will be required to volunteer at one Tournament, provide transportation, supplies, snacks & support to the Coach(s)

**Dismissal Procedure:** depends on Coach

**Enrollment Limitations:** only limited by number of parents who are willing to volunteer as Coaches

**Registration Procedure:** Students that are interested in Odyssey of the Mind will need to attend an orientation that will be scheduled at the beginning of the year. Please come to the information night on **October 7 @ 7:15** in the Rockenbaugh Cafeteria. Students can not register for the program parents will have to be willing to coach a team in order for one to form. Registration will NOT be at Club and Activity Sign Up Day.

**Need more information?** Here is the official Web site for more general information:

<http://www.odysseyofthemind.com/> You can also contact Cynthia Featherston at Rockenbaugh Elementary; 817-949-4700 [featherc@cisdmail.com](mailto:featherc@cisdmail.com)