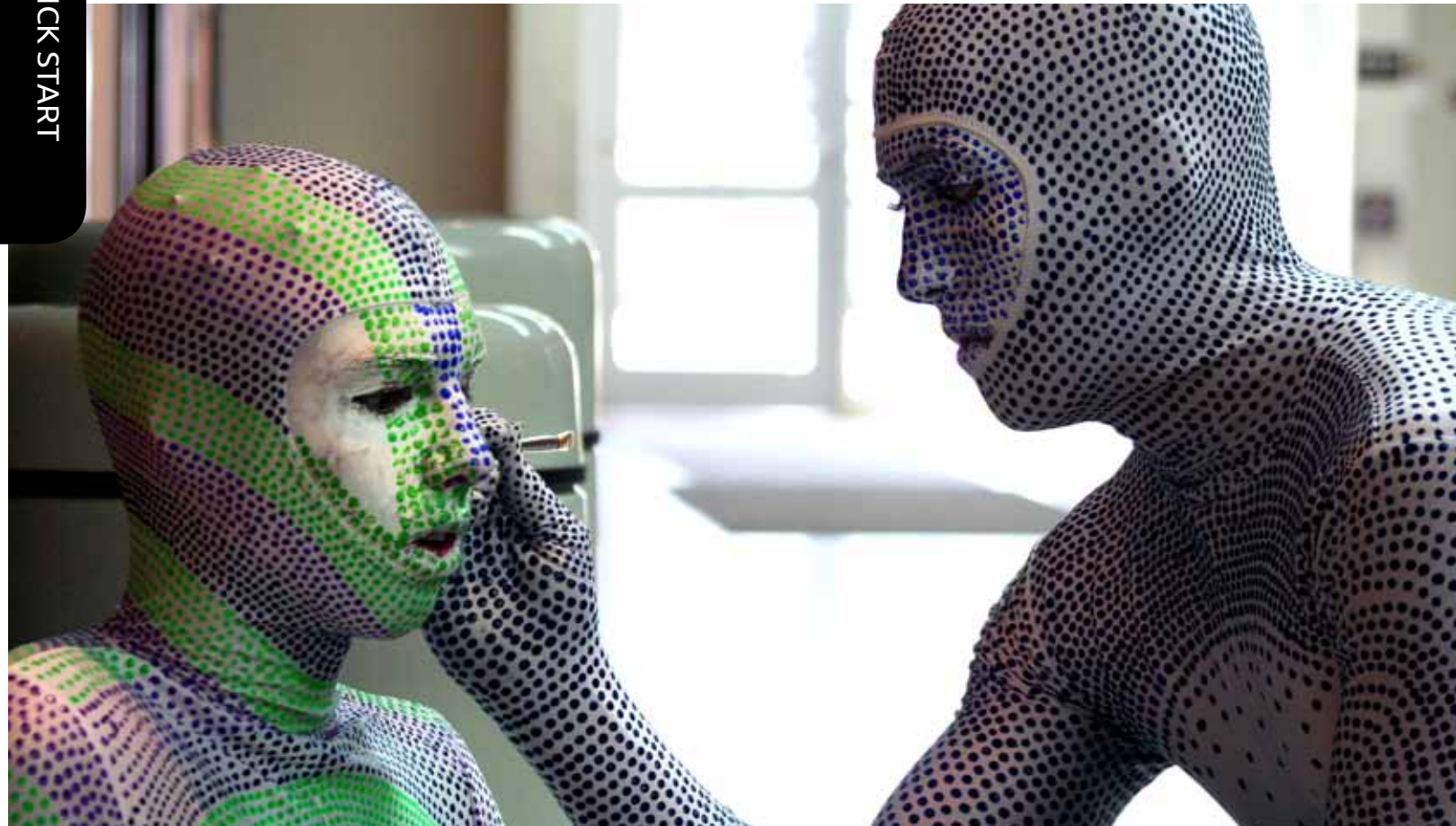


**quick
start
guide**

w e l c o m e



We are thrilled to welcome you to Destination ImagiNation! This *Quick Start* guide is designed provide easy entry into the Destination ImagiNation program. Over the next several pages, we'll explain the main points of Destination ImagiNation, and we'll provide overviews for the sections contained within the 2011-12 *Program Materials*.

Destination ImagiNation is an educational program in which student teams solve open-ended Challenges and present their solutions at Tournaments. It is the largest Creative Problem Solving-based program of its kind. Around the world, 100,000 youth participate in Destination

ImagiNation annually, and more than 38,000 volunteers help support the program.

Over the course of this season, your team will work to solve one of our *Team Challenges* and practice and solve any number of *Instant Challenges*. By solving Challenges, your team will also gain experience in Creative Problem Solving—a powerful process based on more than 50 years of research that can transform the way that children approach problems for the rest of their lives.

Destination ImagiNation is an experience-based program, so it's important to remember that the process is more important than any tangible item your

team may create. Remember: the journey is more important than the end result. It is very important for your team to make its own choices and learn from each experience. Over the course of the season, your team may experience moments of laughter, struggle, brilliance, failure and success. All of these moments are important and a part of the Destination ImagiNation experience.

Again, we welcome you to the Destination ImagiNation program, and we hope you enjoy the 2011-12 season. If you have any questions, or need assistance, please call 856.881.1603 or e-mail askDI@dihq.org.



QUICK START

From handmade costumes to elaborate technical devices, childhood creativity takes many forms in the Destination ImagiNation program!



The DI

who

DI features teams of up to 7 participants each. Our participants range in age from kindergarteners through university-level students. Each team needs an adult Team Manager.

what

Teams develop solutions to DI *Team Challenges* and *Instant Challenges*. They present their solutions at Tournaments.

when

Each season takes place from September through May. Teams typically spend three months developing their *Team Challenge* solutions and practicing *Instant Challenges*.



cheat sheet

where

Teams practice wherever they can find space, so they practice in living rooms, garages, classrooms and similar locations! Tournaments typically take place in local schools.

why

Teams participate to have fun, meet new friends and engage in Challenges! Additionally, teams also learn and experience creativity, teamwork and problem solving.

how

Teams refer to the *Program Materials* to develop solutions to DI Challenges, and then they bring their solutions to Tournaments. The *Roadmap* can also guide teams through the season. Should you need any help, you can contact DI headquarters at askDI@dihq.org or 856.881.1603.





educational goals

Destination ImagiNation is an educational program in which student teams solve open-ended Challenges and present their solutions at Tournaments. Teams are tested to think on their feet, work together and devise original solutions that satisfy the requirements of the Challenges. Participants gain more than just basic knowledge and skills—they learn to unleash their imaginations and take unique approaches to problem solving.

goals

- Foster creative and critical thinking.
- Learn and apply problem solving methods and tools.
- Develop teamwork, collaboration and leadership skills.
- Enhance and apply written and verbal communication and presentation skills (both impromptu and sustained).
- Promote the recognition, use and development of many and varied strengths and talents.
- Encourage competence in, enthusiasm for, and commitment to real-life problem solving.
- Teach volition and rapid-fire thinking skills.
- Nurture research and inquiry skills, involving both creative exploration and attention to detail.



methods

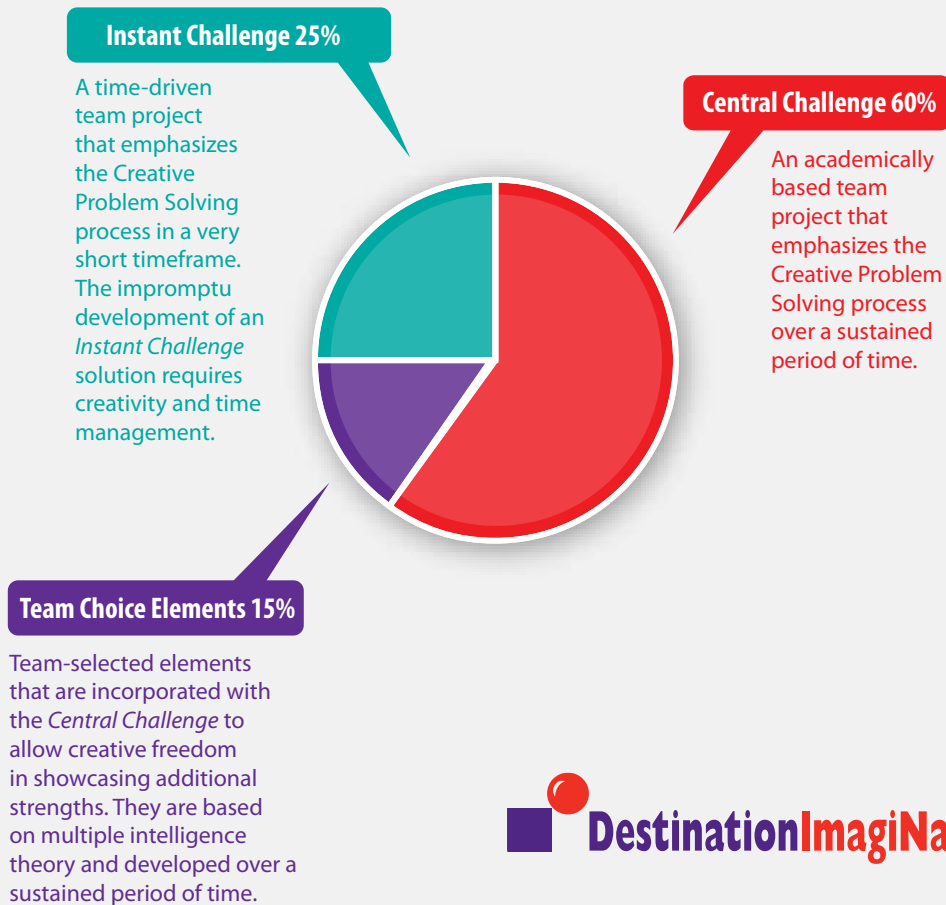
- Young people of similar age work on teams of up to 7 members over a period of 8-16 weeks.
- No Interference is allowed from anyone outside of the team.
- Adult Team Managers act as team facilitators.
- Experienced trainers in all Affiliates provide Team Manager training.
- Problem solving skills are cultivated by using creative problem solving tools.
- Open-ended *Team* and *Instant Challenges* appreciate creativity.
- Individual and team strengths are promoted by *Team Choice Element*, based on Multiple Intelligence Theory.
- *Instant Challenges* engage participants in rapid-fire critical thinking.
- *Team Challenges* engage participants in sustained problem solving.

assessment

- Tournaments are a celebration of what the team has accomplished and the process learned.
- Solutions are evaluated, and Reward Points are a component of *Team* and *Instant Challenges*.
- Appraisers are trained to reward the process that the team has experienced.
- *Tournament Data Forms* provide opportunity for teams to culminate their experience.
- Special Awards are given for exceptional creativity, teamwork and innovation.
- At the end of the Destination ImagiNation season, teams have an active reflection time.

the program formula

Destination ImagiNation teams have to solve two Challenges: the *Team Challenge* (over time) and the *Instant Challenge* (at a Tournament). The combination of the two types of Challenges make up the sum of the Destination ImagiNation program.



Note: The *Team Challenge* is the combination of the *Central Challenge* and *Team Choice Elements*. A team's solution to the *Team Challenge* must align to the text of the *Team Challenge*, the *Rules of the Road*, and any Published Clarifications.

READ THE FULL
ROADMAP
IN SECTION:

2

QUICK START

about the roadmap

We encourage everyone to start their season by following the *Roadmap*. *Roadmap* is designed to guide Team Managers from the start of a season to a Destination ImagiNation Tournament in 16 team sessions. We designed it to serve both new and veteran Team Managers, and we hope it facilitates the journey through the Destination ImagiNation season in a streamlined and accessible way.

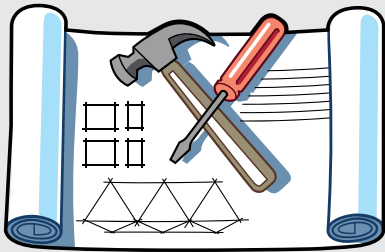
Roadmap provides activities, *Instant Challenges*, and Creative Problem Solving tools for Destination ImagiNation teams. It also offers guidance for how to approach the *Team Challenges* and the rest of the *Program Materials*. As you work through *Roadmap*, we encourage you to document your team's experience, so the team can revisit and reflect on its growth at the end of the season.

2011-12 Challenge Previews

Over the course of the Destination ImagiNation season, your team will spend most of its time developing a solution for a *Team Challenge*. Every year, Destination ImagiNation creates new and exciting Challenges, each of which has a special focus. Here are the 2011-12 *Team Challenges*, along with the objectives that teams will have to accomplish. Please keep in mind that these are just the objectives, and your team will have to read the full *Team Challenges* found later in the *Program Materials*.

READ THE FULL
TEAM CHALLENGES
IN SECTION:

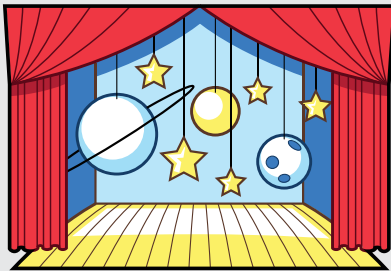
3



A

assembly required *technical*

- Design and build Equipment that retrieves Parts and delivers Products.
- Assemble Products from team-provided Parts to fill Orders, and use the Products in your team's Presentation.
- Earn extra points by deciding how best to fill Orders with no Parts or Products left over in the Assembly Area.
- Present a team-created story about something that happens just in time.



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B

the solar stage *scientific*

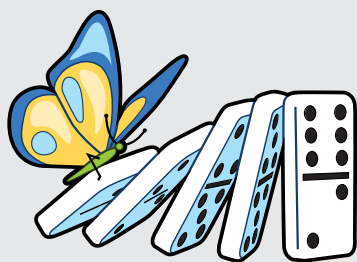
- Create and present a theatrical performance that tells a Story about the use of solar energy.
- Integrate research about past and/or current uses of solar energy.
- Design and create a Solar Energy Prototype that demonstrates a new way to collect, capture and use solar energy.
- Design and provide Theatrical Lighting to illuminate the Presentation and to create special theatrical effects.



C

coming attractions *fine arts*

- Present a Movie Trailer involving characters from at least two Nations.
- Design a Cinematic Special Effect and feature it in the Movie Trailer.
- Create an Original Soundtrack that complements the Movie Trailer.

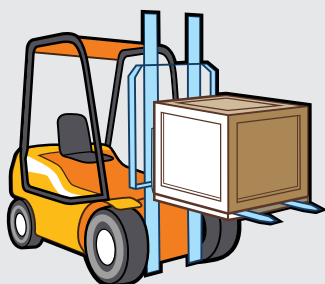


D

news to me

improvisational

- Learn about different types of News Stories.
- Learn about Cause-and-Effect relationships.
- Use Cooperative Human Scenery and Props to enhance your Skit.
- Create a 5-minute Improvisational Skit about the Cause-and-Effect relationship between two unrelated News Stories.
- Have all your plans suddenly become totally discombobulated by a One-Minute Glitch (OMG)!



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E

hold it!

structural

- Design, build and test a Structure made entirely out of wood and glue to hold weight and contain Tournament-provided golf balls.
- Design and build a Delivery Device that will deposit the golf balls, one at a time, into the Structure.
- Create and present an original Story about a “Captivator.”
- Integrate the Weight Placement and Golf Ball Delivery into the Story.

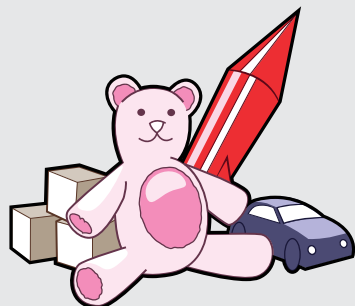


presented by **mae**

the world canvas

service-learning

- Use creative problem solving tools to identify and select at least one real community need.
- Design and carry out a Project to address the need.
- Create an Advertisement and use it in your Project.
- Create a Marketing Brochure to describe your Project.
- Share your Project at the Tournament with an entertaining live Presentation.



built to last

early learners

- Learn about toys and how they have changed over time.
- Create a play about making the last toy that will ever be made.
- Explore how your team works together to make decisions about your team-created toy.

READ THE FULL
RULES OF THE
ROAD IN SECTION:
4



about the rules of the road

The *Rules of the Road* contains all of the rules, procedures and forms required for the Destination ImagiNation program. It is very important for every team to review the *Rules of the Road* to learn the intricacies of the program, to prepare for Tournaments, and to make sure the team's *Team Challenge* solution fits within the rules of the program.

Please be aware that the *Rules of the Road* is a detailed and specific resource, and your team will have to spend time to review it. This is a necessary part of the Destination ImagiNation program. By taking the time to review and refer to the *Rules of the Road* regularly, your team will be better situated and prepared to perform well at a Tournament.

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Destination ImagiNation Scholarship Committee

The Destination ImagiNation Scholarship Committee (DISC) supports the Destination ImagiNation program by:

- Providing and managing an e-mail list (dini@yahoogroups.com) that offers communication on teamwork, creativity and problem solving. It also serves as an information resource for the Destination ImagiNation community.
- Functioning as the scholarship arm for the Destination ImagiNation program, raising money and administering the awarding of scholarships to assist participants and program volunteers in advancing their education beyond high school.
- Organizing and hosting the Team Managers and Officials Competition at Global Finals each year.
- Hosting the DI Resource Wiki (<http://diresources.wikispaces.com>), an extensive listing of resources for teams and Team Managers.
- Providing additional support for Destination Imagination in the form of resource lists, Team Manager hints, and mentoring those new to the program.

Our hope is that those of you who are Team Managers, Coordinators, Affiliate Directors or Regional Directors will contact current high school seniors and those currently enrolled in post-secondary education and suggest they apply for the DISC Scholarships. Scholarship information is available on our Web site at <http://www.didisc.org>.

In addition, we also ask for your support by purchasing our scholarship fundraiser pins and shirts. Look for the DISC Scholarship Pin in the fall and for the DISC Global Final Pin and T-Shirt in early spring. Information can be found on our Web site.

Thanks to your support this past year DISC will once again be offering up to \$10,000 in scholarships to deserving candidates in the 2011-2012 Academic Year. Funds will be awarded for the 2012-2013 Academic Year.

Information on DISC Scholarships and information on how to apply can be found on the DISC scholarship pages on our Web site.

The DISC scholarship sub-committee is looking forward to reviewing the many exciting applications that you will be sending in.

To be eligible, Scholarship Applicants must:

- Be pursuing a post-secondary degree in a Trade School, Community College or University in the 2010-2011 school year.
- Have participated in Destination ImagiNation as a team member and/or in a volunteer capacity.
- If applying while pursuing post-high-school graduation, the applicant should be actively continuing his or her involvement in Destination ImagiNation in some capacity – either as a team member or as a volunteer. See the Web site for further details.

We wish all of our scholars good luck and creativity in their endeavors.