

Odyssey of the Mind at Manatee

What is Odyssey of the Mind?

- Odyssey of the Mind (OM) helps children learn creative problem-solving skills while having fun! It teaches them to "think outside the box" while fostering team-building among participants. Students learn how to identify challenges and develop creative solutions.

What is the history of the program?

- The program was developed in the 1970s by Dr. Sam Micklus, a former college professor, to challenge children to use their imaginations and ingenuity.
- Brevard County became formally involved in this program for the first time during the 1989-1990 school year, and soon became known as the Space Coast Region.

How does it work?

- Millions of students from kindergarten through college form teams. Under the guidance of coaches, teams spend several months working cooperatively to develop a solution to one of five long-term problems. Problems cover a variety of areas from building mechanical devices to giving an artistic or performance-based interpretation of literary classics. Initially, teams will meet weekly, but often meet two or more times per week just prior to the competition. Meeting days are determined by the individual coach and are based on his/her availability while taking into consideration of student schedules as much as possible. Teams may meet after school on campus, at the coach's or other team member's home.

Dates that are important:

- Regional Competition @ Viera HS - Saturday, February 22, 2020
- State Finals @ UCF Orlando - Saturday, Apr 4, 2020
- World Finals @ Iowa State University - May 27 – 30, 2020

Is your child interested in participating on an Odyssey of the Mind team? Please complete and return THIS form by Friday, September 20th.

Student's Name_____ Grade_____

Parent's Name_____ Teacher_____

Parent Email

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Parent Phone # _____

Would you be willing to coach or co-coach a team? _____yes _____no