



Oak Hills D.I. Frequently Asked Questions

What is Destination Imagination?

Destination Imagination is an international, creative problem-solving, cooperative team competition for kids. Teams of 2-7 students form a team, with the facilitation of volunteer parent Team Managers, who meet in their home. Teams select one of six rich, complex, and fun problems to solve on their own--no help from adults or others allowed! In the spring, teams present their solutions at an exciting day-long Regional Destination Tournament.

A season of Destination Imagination can last from the fall until the tournament, which is held in the spring. Students who participate gain confidence and creativity and learn skills in cooperation, problem-solving, critical thinking, and presenting ideas.

Who can participate?

Students in grades K-12 can participate. In Oak Hills, generally students in Kindergarten through middle school participate.

How many students can be on a team?

Teams can have as few as two or as many as seven team members.

Time commitment? Where are the meetings?

Beginning in the fall, teams usually meet once a week for 1-2 hours, and sometimes more as the Tournament in March or April approaches. Meetings typically are hosted in the homes of Team Managers.

How much does it cost?

The fee has been set at \$55 per child. It should be paid by check and made out to the child's school building. Do not send in a fee until a D.I. Registration Form has been sent home for your child.

What do fees cover?

Fees cover the team materials and official team number, the team registration fee for the Regional D.I. Tournament, a team t-shirt if the team chooses one, and the materials that the team purchases to solve their team challenge.

How do teams form?

After learning about D.I. by visiting the [D.I. website](#), reading all the FAQs, and attending the D.I. Information Night (optional), complete a D.I. Participation Interest Form and return it by the deadline.

If parent volunteers have stepped forward to serve as Team Managers, D.I. Building Coordinators will help to try to group students by level to see if teams can be formed. If a team can be formed,

a D.I. Registration Form will be sent home. The form is to be completed and returned with the registration fee.

Is there a special competition for young learners?

Yes. There is an option to select a non-competitive "Early Learning Challenge" for beginners, grades K-2, though all levels may participate in the advanced challenges. Early Learning Challenges help students get acclimated to the D.I. process with a challenge that may be more manageable for the youngest learners. The emphasis is learning the process of D.I., rather than competing to solve a team problem.

Is my child guaranteed a team?

No. Most years we have a surplus of interested D.I. Team Members but a lack of enough Team Managers. When this happens, parents are notified to see if someone will step forward to be a Team Manager. Students from different Oak Hills schools may have an opportunity to combine to make a team.

Teams can only form when parent volunteers step forward to facilitate and host teams. If there aren't enough TMs or participants, students may not be able to participate. D.I. Building Coordinators, using D.I. Interest Forms, try to group children of similar age into teams; students from different schools in the district may join to form teams. Every effort is made to place students on available teams. Team placement will be communicated as soon as possible after Interest Forms are Returned.

Can my child join an already established team?

An experienced team has the option to add new team members each year, but they may opt to keep their team as is to preserve the experience level and competition skills they have previously worked hard to earn together as a team. Teams have a right to form and limit their size, according to official international D.I. rules.

What happens if there are not enough Team Managers to form enough teams?

Building Coordinators will contact parents of interested students to see if someone wishes to step up. The best way to guarantee that your child can participate in D.I. is for parents to volunteer to become Team Managers and to encourage their own children to find other students with whom to form a team!

What role do Oak Hills staff play?

In elementary and middle school buildings, a staff member is a D.I. Building Coordinator. This person helps to distribute information, facilitates team formation by acting as a communication hub, and provides support as Team Managers guide their teams through the D.I. season. Additionally, one elementary and one middle school district administrator serve as D.I. District Coordinators.

Building Coordinators are your first stop for questions that are not answered in the FAQs. D.I. District Coordinators and building administrators provide can provide extra support.

Teams must provide an "Appraiser," an adult volunteer

Destination Imagination is volunteer-run. On the day of the tournament, all adults who serve as judges, registration staff, and other helpers are volunteers. Each team must provide one

volunteer, called an "Appraiser," who can attend a 3-hour training and also serve all day the day of the tournament. These dates are TBA. The name and contact information of the Appraiser is usually due by December, submitted online along with the team registration information.