



DestinationImagInation

The most important course in education.

October 2007
Number 2 for 2007-2008

North Carolina

Destination Imagination®

2008 NCDI State Tournament

Mark your calendars now for the NCDI State Tournament on Saturday, April 5, 2008. The tournament will be held at Blue Ridge Community College in Flat Rock. More information about the tournament will be available soon.

Purchase Your Destination Imagination Membership

Purchase your 2007-2008 Destination Imagination membership now. This can be done online at www.ShopDI.org, or by filling out a paper membership form and mailing it along with your payment to DI Headquarters. As soon as your membership fee has been received, you will be able to access the DI Program materials online and they will also be mailed to you.

Contact Us!

Your Affiliate Directors are here to help you. If you have any questions or need help with your DI team, please contact us by emailing Kirby@ncdini.org or by calling Cynthia or Tom at 704-541-8271.

Destination Imagintaion® is sponsored by the National Dairy Council.



"In creating, the only hard thing is to begin." ~James Russell Lowell

How to Start a DI Team

You've heard great things about DI. You want to encourage creativity and self-esteem in kids and a DI team seems like a wonderful way to do just that. But you're not sure how to start. Here's how it works!

First, purchase a DI membership. You can do this online at www.shopDI.org or you can fill out a paper application, available at www.idodi.org. A one-pak membership costs \$110 and allows you to have one team compete this year. A five-pak is \$225 and allows your school or organization to have as many as five competitive teams.

After you have purchased your membership, you will have access to all of the DI program materials online. As soon as your membership is processed through DI Headquarters, printed materials will also be sent to you.

Team membership can be determined in a variety of ways. Sometimes team members are recommended by teachers. A good way to put together a team is to hold an interest meeting with students and

parents. During the meeting explain the Destination Imagination program and then do some Instant Challenge-type activities with the group. (Check your program materials for information and activity ideas.) At the end of the meeting have kids who want to be on teams fill out forms and give parents opportunities to sign up for volunteer positions— team managers, snack providers, etc.

Once you have your team, now what? Spend some time getting to know each other. Play games and practice Instant Challenge. IC practice doesn't always have to be structured. Throw some materials on the table— straws, pencils, paperclips, note cards, etc.— and have the team practice building structures with them.

Spend time reading the Challenge that the team will be solving. Read it together with them and have the kids talk about it and share ideas. Then read the Challenge again. Repeat this activity frequently over the weeks that your team spends solving the challenge, paying atten-

tion each time to the Challenge requirements and where the points in the Challenge come from. As team manager you should also read the Rules of the Road until you feel that you know them well.

Check your materials for some Instant Challenge practice ideas and use these to help the team learn to work together.

As a team manager, remember that it is not your job to solve the challenge. That responsibility belongs to the team. Make sure that you and they understand the rules of interference and know that the ownership of their solution belongs to them.

As your team is working, feel free to contact your Affiliate Directors with any questions or concerns you may have.

Allow your team to amaze you. Enjoy watching them grow as they learn the meaning of teamwork and as they develop skills and tap into their own creative potential.

DI Kid Makes the Cover of Rolling Stone Magazine

The cover of the August 23, 2007 Rolling Stone features Zac Efron, the star of *High School Musical* and *Hairspray*. In the magazine interview with Zac, he mentions that he was on a Destination Imagination team in high school. Zac's team competed in the Improv Challenge in 2004 for Arroyo Grande High

School in California. "We had so much fun doing it," he says "that we won the worldwide competition... It was crazy."

Yes, the 19-year-old labeled by Rolling Stone as "The New American Heart Throb" was a DI kid. Who says doing DI isn't cool?



David Edgar and the Plastiquarium™

Old Bottles Find New Life In This Artist's Hands

Destination Imagination teams often strive to find creative and innovative uses for common materials and found items. David Edgar is a North Carolina artist whose work can serve as an inspiration for such teams.

Mr. Edgar is Associate Professor of Art at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte. With extensive education and experience in the arts, his work has been exhibited in museums and art shows all over the United States over the past 25 years. His background includes professorships, arts administration, and working as a Production Artist for the Imagineering Division of the Walt Disney World Company.

Mr. Edgar was already a nationally recognized artist when the Carolina Panthers competed in the Super Bowl in 2004. In connection with the Super Bowl, he made a Panthers mask. To create his mask, he found the perfect material- a used detergent bottle that was just the right shade of Panthers blue. Soon, Mr. Edgar's medium of choice for his artwork became all sorts of recyclable plastic bottles. Bottles from his neighbors' recycling bins began finding their way into Mr. Edgar's studio, into his artwork, and eventually into art shows and museums all over the country. Many of his creations represent marine life and are included in a body of work he calls the Plastiquarium™. The Plastiquarium is a unique and colorful collection of sea creatures made from detergent bottles.

As Destination Imagination teams look for creative ways to use found and recyclable items, and as they search out inexpensive materials to use in their challenge solutions, they can learn a lot from David Edgar.

To learn more about David Edgar and to see more pictures of his artwork, please visit his web site, www.plastiquarium.com.



Destination Imagination Free Memberships Available

North Carolina Destination Imagination has a limited number of free memberships available. To qualify for a free membership, a school must be participating in DI for the first time and willing to commit to presenting a team at the State Tournament on April 5, 2008. Any school interested in claiming a free membership should contact Cynthia Kirby at Kirby@ncdini.org or by calling 704-541-8271. Quantities are limited and will be awarded to qualifying schools on a first-come first-served basis.

Schedule a DI Interest Meeting Now!

If you would like to schedule a DI Interest Meeting at your school, just let us know. All you have to do is provide an interested audience of teachers, parents, and students. We will come to your school and give a presentation explaining the DI program. The presentation includes hands-on Instant Challenge activities designed to capture the attention of both adults and students. This is a great way to identify students who would benefit from a creative outlet and adults who would like to work with them.

Instant Challenge Practice

Use this table to set up Instant Challenges for your team to practice. Gather materials from Column A. Then choose one or more of the materials, and an item from any of the next four columns. Or use any two or three of Columns B,C,D, and E. Encourage your team to experiment with the various elements, to work together to form solutions, and to have fun as they practice IC!

	A	B	C	D	E
	Materials	Make a.....	That will....	Place	Situation
1.	Cereal Box	Communication Device	Make people laugh	Cave	Talking to the fish
2.	Newspaper	Vehicle	Make a job easier	The moon	Making a fancy meal
3.	Large Manila Envelops	Aircraft	Appeal to a teenager	Rainforest	Lost your money
4.	Linguini	Cleaning tool	Move	Treehouse	Bugs are biting
5.	Cotton balls	Sculpture	Cool people off	In a kitchen drawer	You're late!
6.	Ribbon	Device	Scare people	Jungle	Lost homework
7.	Aluminum foil	Cosmetic item	Hold a tennis ball	An amusement park	Doing a science experiment
8.	Posterboard	Article of clothing	Protect	Storybook Land	Very hungry!
9.	Yardstick	Kitchen tool	Hit a target	Fish Bowl	Chapped lips
10.	Paper Plate	Container	Make music	Under the Ocean	Trying to fly
11.	Straws	Shelter	Tell time	Concert	Rainy day