



Odyssey of the Mind®

2024 - 2025 SEASON

Calling all students who like to have fun creatively solving problems as part of a team

Odyssey of the Mind® is an international program where students integrate logical problem solving with creative expression. Through completion of brainteasing challenges and development of original presentations, teams of students (up to 7 per team) work together to produce scripts, props, and costumes to solve creative problems *competitively* — outside and inside the box!

The amount of teams ECC OOTM will have is dependent upon the number of students & parents that wish to be involved. In order for a team to exist, a volunteer head-coach is required. Without a volunteer coach, a team cannot be formed. You don't have to know anything about OOTM but it does require you to hold meetings/practices.

Details:

- Three divisions at ECC: Primary (K-2), Division I (K-5) and Division II (6-8).
- Applicants must submit a written application.
- Students must commit to attending WEEKLY meetings with their coach/team; the frequency (and intensity!) of meetings will likely increase as the competition approaches. Talk to your volunteer coach about their schedule for the season.
- All teams must have a Parent Coach and parents must also be willing to help out at least 5+ hours *per child* as/when needed.

For more information visit www.odysseyofthemind.com

Please see attached student application and parent info sheet. This program's success at ECC relies entirely on PARENT VOLUNTEERS — COACHES and ASSISTANT COACHES! Please consider coaching!

Important Dates

- June 5, 2024: STUDENT APPLICATION DEADLINE. Interest forms and student applications due to Stephanie Barnes (via email, the office, or your child's teacher).
- June 9, 2024: Team rosters/coaches will be announced by email. Approximately 7 kids on a team. Acceptance is subject to the number of coach volunteers we have, as well the number of students per Division.
- Early/Mid-March 2025 (Exact Date TBD): Regional Tournament
- March/April 2025 (Exact Date TBD): State Tournament

Questions?

Contact Stephanie Barnes at stephanie.y.barnes@gmail.com or via cell at (206)713-2427



Odyssey of the Mind®

EL Camino Creek Elementary School

STUDENT APPLICATION

Student Name: _____

2024-2025 GRADE: _____

*Please consider your other commitments to ensure you are able to provide the necessary support to your team!

Why do you want to be on an ECC Odyssey of the Mind team?

What personal skills would you bring to the team?

What is a very creative thing you have produced? Please describe it and how you made it.

You could be involved in one or all of the following activities. To learn what you are most interested in, please rate the following activities in order of your most favorite to least. ("1" is your most favorite and "5" is your least favorite.)

- ___ Researching a topic by talking to experts, reading books, and viewing internet sources
- ___ Preparing an entertaining presentation such as a short play, song, or video
- ___ Giving a presentation before an audience
- ___ Designing/building a structure or vehicle
- ___ Designing/creating stage scenery, costumes, and props

Please indicate the times you are available to meet. We understand that schedules change from Fall to Winter, so please just consider your availability through Fall 2024. Coaches/teams may re-assess practice times in January.

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday*	Sunday*
Afternoon (2:30- 4 PM)							
Afternoon (4 – 5:30 PM)							
Evening (5:30 – 7 PM)							

*Indicate if you would be open to or prefer Saturday or Sunday instead of weekdays.

****PLEASE RETURN YOUR COMPLETED APPLICATION via EMAIL, TO THE OFFICE OR YOUR TEACHER BY JUNE 5, 2024**

Due to OOTM guidelines, each team will be limited to 7 students.

Acceptance will depend upon availability of parent coaches, team size and number of students per grade in the program.

El Camino Creek Odyssey of The Mind® Parent Information Form

This form, in addition to your child's application, is due to your child's teacher, returned to the office, or via email to Stephanie Barnes (stephanie.y.barnes@gmail.com) by June 5, 2024.

Student Name: _____ Grade: _____
Parent Name: _____ Parent Phone: _____
Parent Email _____ Parent Signature: _____

____ Please check here if your child has previously participated in Odyssey of the Mind.

Friend, Team, or Coach Request (we will try our best) _____

In order for your child to participate in the program, we are asking parents to indicate their top two volunteer positions for the Odyssey teams below. The program's success relies on the willingness of parents to volunteer.

If you are considering coaching, but feel you don't have the background, please contact Stephanie Barnes (206)713-2427 to discuss before you decide NOT to check the "Coach" box below. You can do it! It is very rewarding and will enable more students to participate in the program.

Please choose your top two interests:

1) Coach _____

- Oversees individual team (The kids work on their project independently. The coach is an overseer and guide for the team, but is not allowed to work ON the project with the kids. Projects are 100% executed by the kids.)
- Attends 1 day online coaches training
- Communicates with ECC OOTM program coordinator (Rachelle Crumrine)
- Commits to leading at least one meeting per week and more as necessary (Timeframe and time dedicated to the program is determined by the coach and the assistant coach. Most often, the home of the coach or assistant coach is used as a meeting place for team projects, practice, and storage. The coach, assistant coach, or another parent will need to store project/problem materials leading up to competition)
- Must attend competition days (Regional - Early/Mid-March, 2025)

2) Assistant coach _____

- Similar to coach, but takes a secondary role as coach (Note: teams may also have co-coaches sharing equal responsibility for the team. However, if there is a co-coach, both coaches must do the on-line training.)
- Helps to oversee meetings with the Coach or if the Coach cannot attend.
- Must attend competition days (Regional - Early/Mid-March, 2025)

3) Team parent _____

- In charge of keeping the team needs organized
- Manages team budget, collects funds from parents for team expenses (snacks, t-shirts, books, etc.)
- Sets up calendar as needed, coordinates spontaneous problems with other parents, coordinates team t-shirt order, etc.
- Hosts/oversees meetings if coach(s) are unable

4) Judge _____

(Mandatory for each team to supply a volunteer judge on day of competition)

- Attend regional competition day - donate a day of your time to support this program on the regional level.
- Attend mandatory Judge's on-line training date TBD.

5) Tournament Volunteer _____

(Mandatory for each team to supply a tournament volunteer on day of competition)

- Volunteer time (approximately 2 hours) at regional competition (e.g., check teams in, direct students, help with set-up or cleanup)