



Odyssey of the Mind is a competition that teaches students to learn creative problem-solving methods while having fun in the process. Teams of up to seven students choose one of five problems to solve. Some of the problems are more technical in nature, while others are artistic or performance based. After weeks spent creating, developing and practicing their solutions, 3rd-5th grade teams go to a local tournament (**Saturday, March 3 at Heartland Middle School in Edmond**). Top-scoring teams advance to state tournament (**Saturday, April 7, location TBD**). The top level of the tournament is World Finals, the world's largest celebration of creativity. This year World Finals takes place at Iowa State University (**May 23-26**). Kindergarten-2nd grade students work on their solutions and present them in a non-competitive format at the state competition.

Any Eliot **K-5th grade** student is welcome to participate in Odyssey of the Mind, provided we have enough parent volunteers to serve as team coaches. Students do not have to be in SPARK to participate. Please consider coaching your child's team. It is an amazing program and a great experience for team members and coaches. All coaches are required to attend training on Saturday, October 7 at the Owasso 7th Grade Center from 9:00 - noon.

The cost to participate at Eliot is \$50 per 3rd-5th grade student and \$15 per student for K-2nd grade. This covers a shared \$135 membership fee and a fee of \$20 per participant to compete in Oklahoma. The remaining funds are for supplies needed to develop solutions to their problems. We will also have fundraising activities planned throughout the year to help cover additional costs if any of the Eliot teams qualify to compete at World Finals.

If you would like your child to participate in Odyssey of the Mind at Eliot, please indicate below and **place the bottom portion of this letter, along with payment to EFF, in an envelope. Please write your child's name and Odyssey of the Mind on the front of the envelope and place the envelope in the designated drawer in the office.** If you have any questions about the program, you can visit the website, www.odysseyofthemind.com or contact Lisa Rutledge via phone or email. rutleli@tulsaschools.org

____ I would like for my child _____ (Grade) _____ to participate in the Odyssey of the Mind program at Eliot this year.

____ I would like to coach my child's team.

(Parent Name)

(Parent Signature)

Contact Information: _____
(phone)

(email)