

Side Trips

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What is a *Side Trip*, anyway?

- An element that is judged in addition to the *Central Challenge*
- Showcases a team's Specialities
- Can be anything the team chooses that is not scored in the *Central Challenge!*

Specialities

- Unique abilities
- Interests
- Skills
- Talents
- Something the team learned specifically to solve their *Central Challenge*

Examples of *Side Trips*

- Anything...
- Costumes
- Songs
- Dances
- Props

How to pick a *Side Trip*

- *Side Trip* Specialities Inventory (see www.idodi.org – in the Program Materials downloads)
- Build *Side Trips* around the team's strengths
- Learn new skills

How do successful teams pick *Side Trips*?

- Begin early!
- Read challenge many times
- Integrate *Side Trips* into their Challenge solution
- Learn new skills together for the *Side Trips*

How to have teams present their *Side Trips*

- Fill out the *Side Trip* form
- Talk about how they developed their *Side Trips* – explain the background
- Little things count
- Try to have everyone participate in their *Side Trips*

How to word a *Side Trip*

- Be precise
- Describe exactly where a *Side Trip* will appear in the performance
- Don't be afraid if asked to clarify a *Side Trip*

Where and Who?

- **Your team doesn't want the appraisers to miss a *Side Trip*, so be specific in the where and who**

Example *Side Trip*:

Joe sings a song.

Better Example *Side Trip*:

Joe, dressed in an orange shirt, sings a team composed song at the end of the performance. Please appraise the creativity of the lyrics and overall effect of the song.

Take home points

- ***Side Trips* should not be an afterthought!**
- **Be specific in filling out the *Side Trip* form**
- ***Side Trips* are worth 60 points, 30 points apiece!**