

Destination ImagiNation

Kid Powered - Team Driven!

Imagine a device that is taken apart during a performance and re-connected to form a second device!

Imagine a 3-dimensional video adventure game that tells the story of a modern day Quest!

Imagine an improvisational skit with only a surprise setting, literary elements, and a lesson learned!

Thousands of Minnesota's Kindergarten through University level students have done just that – via participation in *Destination ImagiNation* (DI), the world's largest school and community-based creative problem solving program.

Think of DI as "Creativity 101" . . . a place to explore the unlimited potentials of your imagination. In its third year, *Destination ImagiNation* is a non-profit program, developing the skills of teamwork, risk taking, goal setting, planning, organization, marketing, decision making, project management, and creative problem solving.

Every year challenges are developed in such areas as engineering, science, technology, and the performing arts. Teams of five-to-seven students work together under the facilitation of an adult "Team Manager" to solve one of these challenges in an innovative way within the limitations of cost, space, and technology and without outside assistance.

Designed to tap into multiple intelligences, teams must use their strengths to enhance their solutions. The five "Team Challenges" also contain improvisational elements that must be incorporated into their colorful presentations and presented to a live audience at tournaments. In addition, teams are presented with unknown "Instant Challenge" designed to develop on-the-spot problem solving.

In schools and communities throughout the world, *Destination ImagiNation* is embraced as a fun and meaningful curricular and extracurricular program. The creative problem-solving framework provides students with powerful tools that will help them understand how they can find new and useful solutions to life's challenges. As solutions are developed for their respective challenges, they learn a variety of skills that link directly with federal and state graduation standards.

Close to 6000 children participate in nine tournaments throughout the state, making DI Minnesota's largest non-athletic team sport. Supporters recognize that DI promotes the skills today's workforce values by encouraging children to develop and use their creativity while working effectively with others. Above all, participation in DI teaches them *how to think* - not what to think.

Want to witness the celebration of creativity in action? Join us at any of our Regional Tournaments on Saturdays in February and March and/or our State Tournament in April. All events are free of charge and open to the public.

Minnesota *Destination ImagiNation* is sponsored by Intermediate District 287 in Plymouth. The Executive Board is comprised of Regional Directors who represent school districts, serving as regional tournament site hosts: Anoka-Hennepin, Duluth, Intermediate District 287, Moorhead, Rochester, St. Paul, and St. Peter.

Need more information? Visit the international web site at www.destinationimagination.org or the Minnesota web site at www.mndi.org. DI has introduced a new membership structure that makes the program more accessible to children everywhere. Want to manage a team? To get involved contact Karen Karbo, State Director, at 763/550-7212 or karen.karbo@int287.k12.mn.us.