

# Odyssey of the Mind: *The all-inclusive Club!*

There are many ways for your child to be a part of a “team” outside of traditional team sports. One incredible example of this is a program called **Odyssey of the Mind (OM)**. This international educational program allows students (Kindergarten through college) to work together in teams to solve problems with their creativity, including many STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Math) related objectives. These teams receive the opportunity to present their work at local, state, and international competitions.

## What is Odyssey of the Mind?

**It is an extra-curricular activity.**

**Think of OM like it's...**

- Drama/Theatre Club
- Engineering Club
- Math Team
- Debate Team
- Robotics Club
- Band/Chorus
- Art/Photography Club
- Improv Club
- History Club
- Newspaper/Writing Club

**...All rolled into one.**

## **The quick explanation:**

- ✓ Students develop team-building skills by working in the same team of five to seven members all year.
- ✓ Students learn to examine problems and to identify the real challenge without limiting the possible solutions and their potential success.
- ✓ The creative-thinking process is nurtured and developed as a problem-solving tool.

- ✓ Students of all types will find something that will appeal to them as the program rewards unconventional thinking.
- ✓ Because Odyssey of the Mind eliminates the fear of criticism, even shy students are afforded the opportunity to open and express themselves.
- ✓ The fun of participation leads to an elevated interest in regular classroom curricula. Teachers have a program to further provide students with a well-rounded education.
- ✓ Coaches are volunteer parents or teachers, but they can only “guide” the team and teach them skills. They cannot contribute to the solution.

*Everything is done by the students: ideas, decisions, script, costumes, sets, vehicles, and contraptions.*

## INVITATION

The Odyssey of the Mind – Texas (TXOM) presents  
**Odyssey of the Mind Orientation**  
in September for all **new** parents and teachers who are  
interested to learn more about the program.

Join us for an **online short presentation** to learn about the  
values and benefits of the program, how teams are formed,  
who is the coach, how tournaments work, etc.

**Thursday, Sept 12<sup>th</sup>, 2024 - 7:30 pm** (corrected)

or

**Saturday, Sept 21<sup>st</sup>, 2024 – 4:00 pm**

Sign-up at <http://www.txodyssey.org/orientation>