

# Destination Imagination

## **What is Destination Imagination?**

DI is a STEM-based academic program where teams of students use challenges to learn creative problem solving, team work, and team building skills. Challenges can be technical, structural, scientific, artistic, and any combination thereof. The solutions are 100% generated by the team—no outside interference is allowed. The growth of the team culminates in a regional tournament where they present their Team Challenge to a panel of appraisers. Winning teams move on to the state and global tournaments.

[www.destinationimagination.org](http://www.destinationimagination.org)

## **Who can participate?**

DI benefits all students. It is especially a great option for kids who “aren’t into sports” or kids who “are bored in school” because there is a strong teamwork element as well as ample opportunity to think creatively.

The commitment level is similar to a sports team. Kids are expected to attend meetings and participate in the tournament. As the team solidifies and starts to work on the Team Challenge, it becomes especially important for everyone to be committed.

## **How often do you have meetings?**

Meetings are held once per week for about 1.5-2 hours. As the tournament approaches (March 5, 2016 at Littleton High School) your team may decide they need additional meetings. There may also be smaller meetings for more specific roles (i.e. if two kids on a team are in charge of costumes, or building scientific devices, or programming robots, they might meet together outside of the team meeting).

## **When are these meetings?**

The coach (a parent volunteer) will set a schedule that works best for them. As the team gets closer to the competition, additional days may be added.

## **How much will it cost?**

The cost depends on the challenge that your child’s team chooses. Last year, we had a team who used 100% recycled/reclaimed items vs another team that collected approximately \$90/team member.

Ben Franklin Academy PTO pays for our local and state registration fees. Global Competition fees are separate and are the responsibility of the team.

## **Do your volunteer hours count towards BFA Family Hours?**

Yes. If you volunteer as team manager or parent who volunteers to help with the team meetings, your time will count towards your family hours.

## **Okay, we’ll do it!**

Excellent! Sign up [here](#) or contact Randi at [curtisfamilyatschool@gmail.com](mailto:curtisfamilyatschool@gmail.com). Teams of 5-7 kids will be formed based on the number of coaches we have.