



## DI Eastern Ontario December 2019 Newsletter



### *VISION of Destination Imagination*

*To inspire and equip participants to achieve anything they can imagine in life.*

What better way to enact this vision than with our **Eastern Ontario Region's** first ever.....

### CREATIVITY EXTRAVAGANZA DAY

#### *THEY CAME...THEY SAW.....THEY CONQUERED*

On November 30th our gracious school hosts Pierre and Annie at Ecole Paul-Desmarais in Stittsville welcomed about 120 eager students, and 50 teachers and parents. Also on the welcoming end were a number of enthusiastic and talented volunteers that included the Committee (Doug, Tina, Tom, Veronique and Cyndi), Workshop Leads (Karen, Claudie, Adrianna, Stephan, Dave, Shelley, and Lisa, and most of the Committee members) and support volunteers (George, Rigel, Leo, Helene, and 2 host school students).

Morning Workshops were created to help students understand:

- how to read the challenges
- the variety of uses for materials in an Instant Challenge
- the importance of story elements and how to incorporate them into their IC and main Challenge
- the connections between materials, fasteners, tools and safety equipment
- ....and be encouraged to go with the flow; make "mistakes" in order to learn from them

Three afternoon Instant Challenges allowed the kids to practice and reflect upon what they learnt in the AM. Then, after all was said and done the students shared their feelings and thoughts via their trademark TADAs!

#### *A VERY SUCCESSFUL DAY!*

Based on the 'live' feedback in the visible excitement and fun seen, and the very positive verbal feedback from parents and team managers, the day was a huge success! To ensure we gather ALL feedback a follow-up survey was sent to the Team Managers in attendance. Once narratives from the day and survey responses are in, we will review the results and report back in our **January 2020 Newsletter**.

## DI ONTARIO NEWS

### *IMPORTANT Tournament Information Announcements*

- Due to Site Restrictions at some of our Tournament Venue, this year it has been decided that **NO DRY ICE** will be allowed at our Ontario tournament this year. There will be NO EXCEPTIONS.
- Due to the risk of Serious Allergic Reactions **NO LATEX BALLOONS OR GLOVES** will be allowed at our Ontario Tournament Site.

### *FIVE IMPORTANT Things that Need to be Completed for ALL Teams*

#### 1. **TEAM REGISTRATION** on DI Website to obtain your Team Number:

Most teams have already purchased their team number, but if you have not already done so, please see our September 2019 newsletter for instructions.

#### 2. **SELECT YOUR TEAM CHALLENGE:** It is **VERY important that you log back into the RESOURCE Area of the main DI website & select which Challenge your team has chosen.** This information is absolutely essential to our tournament team to ensure that your team is scheduled for the correct Challenge for our upcoming tournament! <https://resources.destinationimagination.org/resources.php>

#### 3. **YOUTH PROTECTION POLICY:** An important reminder that **All** Team Managers & Team Volunteers in Ontario who work directly with DI Team Members will be required to have a Vulnerable Sector Check (VSC). If you have not already done so, Please send your Vulnerable Sector Check documentation to us at [gta@diontario.org](mailto:gta@diontario.org) as soon as possible. If you have this documentation as part of your employment or volunteer status with your school, you **MUST STILL PROVIDE US WITH DOCUMENTATION** of this.

**EASTERN ONTARIO REGION Team Managers & Team Volunteers: If you are attending the PROVINCIAL TOURNAMENT please send your VSC to [eor@diontario.org](mailto:eor@diontario.org) by January 20<sup>th</sup>.**

#### 4. **APPRAISER/VOLUNTEER REGISTRATION** on DI Ontario Website:

Each team **MUST PROVIDE THE NAME AND EMAIL OF AT LEAST ONE VOLUNTEER** that can devote a minimum of 2 hours on tournament day. **You must nominate a DIFFERENT INDIVIDUAL for each team you register. Volunteer registration, including student volunteers, is at the link below:**  
<https://www.diontario.org/volunteers-and-appraisers>

#### 5. **Register your team for our Provincial Tournament** on the **DI Ontario website** - Registration will be opening soon. This year our Ontario Provincial Tournament Registration fee will be \$70.00 per team.

### **2020 DI Ontario PROVINCIAL Tournament**

**Global Kingdom Ministries**

**Scarborough, ON**

**Saturday March 7th, 2020**

## DI ONTARIO NEWS

### *CHECK for CLARIFICATIONS*

There are already Published Clarifications posted for some of this year's challenges, so don't forget to check back frequently for any new clarifications! Go to the following link on the DI website and select your Team Challenge: <https://www.destinationimagination.org/challenge-program/clarifications/>

If your team has a question & needs to submit a team-specific clarification question, check our DI Ontario October Newsletter for instructions on how to do this.

IMPORTANT REMINDER: **The deadline for submitting Team Clarifications is January 31, 2020.**

There are already Published Clarifications posted for some of this year's challenges, so don't forget to check back frequently for any new clarifications! Go to the following link on the DI website and select your Team Challenge: <https://www.destinationimagination.org/challenge-program/clarifications/>

### *Enter the DI Winter Holiday "Ugly Sweater" Contest*

- Get your team in a festive mood with a Holiday Instant Challenge! Check out the link below to find out more. The deadline to enter the Ugly Holiday Sweater Contest is **January 5, 2020 at 11:59 p.m. ET.**  
<https://www.destinationimagination.org/blog/enter-our-winter-holiday-contest/>

### *New DI Merchandise on Sale for Christmas at the DI Store*

- Get some cool new DI swag for Christmas (or for Tournament season) at the DI Store - Keep in mind that all prices are listed in US dollars, plus Shipping Costs (in US Dollars as well)  
[https://resources.destinationimagination.org/shop.php/products/products\\_apparel](https://resources.destinationimagination.org/shop.php/products/products_apparel)

\*NEW\* - Here's a Sneak Peak of Global Finals 2020 - <https://www.destinationimagination.org/blog/get-a-sneak-peek-at-global-finals-2020/> or visit <https://www.globalfinals.org/>

## **2020 DI GLOBAL FINALS**

**May 20-23, 2020**

**Kansas City, Missouri**

## DI Eastern Ontario News

For those of you who are new DI managers and/or did not receive our previous **Newsletters**, you can find all of them on the DI Ontario website. <https://www.diontario.org/>

In the meantime please visit <https://www.destinationimagination.org/> to guide you towards a successful DI year. Please reach out to our DI Eastern Ontario team at [eor@diontario.org](mailto:eor@diontario.org) if you have **ANY QUESTIONS** and we will do our best to answer them or redirect you to where you can find the answer.

If your Team is doing the Engineering “In the Cards” Challenge? Do you need a box (or more) of playing cards for your Challenge? Let me know and I will make the request to DI Ontario who was able to get Casino Rama to donate cards.



**Tell us how we are doing! If you like this *new* Newsletter format (or not) we want to know!**

In closing and on behalf of the DI EOR Committee, I wish everyone both an energizing and calming Christmas/Holiday Season with family, friends or maybe just some time alone!

Creatively Yours,

*Susanne Reid*

Regional Director, Eastern Ontario

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General Inquiries - contact us at [eor@diontario.org](mailto:eor@diontario.org)

For Additional Information see also:

**Appendix A.....TEAM Development & RESOURCES for Team Managers**

**Appendix B.....INSTANT CHALLENGE (resources, tips and a practice IC)**

**Appendix C.....ADVICE from DI Alumni**

**Appendix D..... DI Performance Videos**

## APPENDIX A: TEAM Development & RESOURCES for Team Managers

### TEAM Development

Your first focus should be to get the kids to be comfortable with each other. A great way to do this is by borrowing some tips from the Drama folks. [Beat by Beat Press](http://www.bbbpress.com/dramagames/) is a great resource for **Drama Games for Kids**. Games from the Ensemble Building and Improv sections help the kids unlock their creativity and imagination. <http://www.bbbpress.com/dramagames/>

The **Team-Building Activities for Students** resource contains five activities to help your team or your students flex their teamwork, creativity, and collaborative critical thinking skills:

<https://www.destinationimagination.org/blog/free-resource-team-building-activities-for-students/>

<https://www.destinationimagination.org/files/downloads/Destination-Imagination-Team-Building-for-Students-Download.pdf>

**Quick Tip:** Before you begin your generating session, create a **Comfortable Environment**. When team members are comfortable, everyone can feel more free to unleash their creative genius and express any and all possible ideas for a Challenge solution. In addition, remind your team members that you're all there to have fun and to think of as many creative ideas as possible.

<https://www.destinationimagination.org/blog/tips-for-teams-idea-generation/>

**Introducing New Skills to Students** - Your team's ability to bring some of their awesome ideas into reality very much depends on their individual skills. Can the Team Manager help students expand their skill sets? Absolutely! Acquiring and applying new skills are foundational to Destination Imagination. The Rules of the Road Interference Triangle addresses this squarely, "It is the job of the Team Manager to facilitate the team members' acquisition of skills."

<https://www.destinationimagination.org/blog/introducing-new-skills-to-students/>

### RESOURCES for Team Managers

#### DI Program Materials

Remember to visit the **RESOURCE AREA** of the DI website, where you can download &/or print the following important resources if you don't have them already: I) Roadmap and II) Rules of the Road.

#### \*NEW\* -The STEMCELLS YouTube Channel

The STEM CELLS are a secondary-level DI team dedicated to empowering kids everywhere to have an amazing DI experience. They've created a YouTube channel to host a video series called "2 MINUTE TEAM MANAGER." The channel's objective is to guide teams through all aspects of a DI season with short and entertaining videos. 100 videos are planned, and will be released over time. <http://www.youtube.com/c/DISTEMCELLS>

The STEM CELLS have won three global championships and received numerous DaVinci, Renaissance, and Spirit-of-DI awards. Most importantly, they love DI and want to help enable other teams have the best DI experience possible.

<https://www.facebook.com/distemcells/#> =

### DI Blog

**FUN FACT** - Did you know that there are **OVER 53 PAGES OF BLOG POSTS** on the main DI website! Wow! No wonder this continues to be my favourite resource - <https://www.destinationimagination.org/blog/>

We have found the following topics particularly helpful as teams begin to work on their Challenge:

- Tips for Teams: 20 Ways to Rule This Season - *"Make sure you have duct tape, cardboard, and willpower. And if you're not having fun, you're not doing it right."* <https://www.destinationimagination.org/blog/tips-for-teams-20-ways-to-rule-this-season/>
- General Troubleshooting FAQs for Team Managers - *There will be times where you will find your team acting like a bunch of wild dingoes. This is normal; they are kids. What would DI be if there were no problems to solve, right?* <https://www.destinationimagination.org/blog/general-troubleshooting-faq-for-team-managers/>
- Keeping Teams on Task - *What kids really need from a Team Manager is someone who encourages them to spread their wings and try new ideas, but one who will also be a bit of a taskmaster as well.*
- <https://www.destinationimagination.org/blog/keeping-teams-on-task/>
- Organizing Team Meetings - *New to DI and are not sure how to organize your team meetings? Check out these helpful tips from veteran Michigan DI Team Manager, Ruth Dargay.* <https://www.destinationimagination.org/blog/organizing-team-meetings/>
- Prototyping your DI Challenge Solution - *Simply put, and stemming from the original Greek, a prototype is a primitive form—an early sample. Prototyping helps establish if a team can bring an idea into reality. I have found that this approach helps validate if team members have both the skills and desire to bring ideas into reality.* <https://www.destinationimagination.org/blog/prototyping-for-your-di-challenge-solution/>
- Team Manager Tips - Life Lessons 101 - <https://www.destinationimagination.org/blog/team-manager-tips-life-lessons-101/>
- 10 Ways to Rule This Season - <https://www.destinationimagination.org/blog/10-ways-to-rule-this-season/>

And finally, our 2 Blog "Picks of the Month", spotlighting Team Conflicts & Team Focus:

- <https://www.destinationimagination.org/blog/dealing-with-team-conflicts/>
- <https://www.destinationimagination.org/blog/team-manager-tips-how-to-get-your-team-to-focus/>



## APPENDIX B: INSTANT CHALLENGE

Don't forget to continue to practice Instant Challenges at EVERY meeting. Remember that Instant Challenge is worth 25% of a Team's Final Score & is quite often what makes a HUGE difference in a team's final standings! We have attached a new Instant Challenge to the end of this newsletter for your team to have fun with. Also, here are some great resources & tips for teams to learn how to improve at Instant Challenge:

- How Does an Instant Challenge work? - <http://destinationimagination.org/blog/how-does-an-instant-challenge-work>
- How Improv Skills Can Help Any Team - *"In the beginning, I couldn't envision how this group of disparate communicators could ever become a cohesive improvisation team. Over time, however, the kids acquired remarkable improv skills that helped them work as a united team in all aspects of their DI Challenges."* <https://www.destinationimagination.org/blog/how-improv-skills-can-help-any-team/>
- 3 Simple (But Important!) Instant Challenge Tournament Tips - Identifying & understanding IC TYPE, IC MATERIALS, & Team Member ROLES - <https://www.destinationimagination.org/blog/3-simple-but-important-instant-challenge-tournament-tips/>
- Here are some great tips for teams to learn how to improve at Instant Challenge from a YouTube channel dedicated to demonstrating ways of solving Instant Challenges, called "Crashing into Imagination" - <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC38FFmKUN5wDvKlai1q38dg>
- Check out "Balance of Power" - Instant Challenge: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ri8Q5Kj-3IA>
- Remember - This video shows ONLY ONE possible way to attack the "Balance of Power" Instant Challenge. Let your team have fun imagining several more ways to solve the challenge by giving them a hard copy of "Balance of Power" - <http://www.cre8iowa.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/03/Balance-of-Power.pdf>

*Give this Instant Challenge for ALL Levels a try!*

### CUP HOLDER

This is a **Task-based** Instant Challenge

#### **The Challenge:**

Your **TASK** is to create a structure that holds two cups as high as possible and as far apart as possible.

**Time:** You will have up to 5 minutes to use your IMAGINATION to create a structure and then up to 1 minute to place the cups on it for score.

**Set-up:** In the middle of the room are two cups and a taped square. In addition, there is a table with materials.

#### **Procedure:**

• **Part One** (5 minutes): Use the materials to create a structure that will hold the two cups as high as possible and as far apart as possible. You may practice placing the cups on the structure in Part One. However, in order to proceed to Part

Two, you must take the cups off the structure. You will be warned when you have one minute remaining and 30 seconds remaining in Part One.

•**Part Two** (1 minute): Place the cups on the structure for score. **No team member may touch the structure when the cups are being placed.** If you did not have a structure at the end of Part One, you may continue working on your structure in Part Two. After the structure supports the cups for ten seconds without the assistance of a team member, the Appraisers will measure the height of the cups above the table and the distance they are apart.

#### Materials

6 Straws  
1 Sheet of Paper  
3 Mailing Labels  
2 Pieces of String  
1 Envelope  
5 Pennies  
1 Piece of Foil  
2 Paper Clips  
2 Chenille Sticks (Pipe Cleaners)  
The mailing labels may not be attached to the floor.

#### Scoring:

30 points for the overall creativity of the newscast  
5 points for each separate person, event, or accomplishment presented  
10 points for the creativity of each separate person, event or accomplishment presented  
20 points for use of props  
10 point for each full minute of the presentation  
20 points for teamwork

<https://thatducttapequy.files.wordpress.com/2014/10/practice-set-a-revised.pdf>



## APPENDIX C: ADVICE from DI Alumni



The mission of the volunteer run Destination Imagination Support Committee (DISC) is to support the goals of Destination Imagination® and its participants through scholarships and community building activities. More information will be coming in the New Year about how to apply for a DISC Scholarship, but in the meantime check out some advice from some past scholarship winners:

- How to Create an OutstanDIng Solution without Breaking the Bank (2014 DISC Scholarship Winner) - [http://didisc.org/sites/didisc.org/files/submissions/2014/tool/007\\_Eifert\\_keeping\\_your\\_solution\\_in\\_budget.pptx](http://didisc.org/sites/didisc.org/files/submissions/2014/tool/007_Eifert_keeping_your_solution_in_budget.pptx)
- DI Tool Time (2010 Scholarship Entry) - <http://tooltime.texasdi.org/>
- DI Tech DIcoded - Introduction to Technical topics for DI Teams (2008 Scholarship Entry) - <http://tech.texasdi.org/>

*MORE Advice from DI ALUMNI (Hint - Alumni REALLY know what they're talking about!)*

### 10 Tips for Teams

Want to make the best of your team's Challenge solution this season? Here are 10 tips from a DI pro and alumna.

<https://www.destinationimagination.org/blog/10-tips-for-teams/>

### Technical Challenge (THE BIG FIX) Team Tips

One of the most difficult parts of this Challenge is figuring out how to make your technical stuff... technical. Whether you're a participant or Team Manager, this is going to take time and patience to develop.

<https://www.destinationimagination.org/blog/how-to-become-a-technical-challenge-pro/>

### Fine Arts (PICTURE THIS) Team Tips

Looking for ways to improve on your Fine Arts Team Challenge solution this season? Hear from a DI alumni on some of the key things you should know, including Integration of Team Choice Elements, Clear & Effective Storytelling, & Don't "Double Dip" - Lots of tips RE: **TEAM CHOICE ELEMENTS & HOW TO INTEGRATE - GREAT**

**INFO FOR ALL TEAMS!**

<https://www.destinationimagination.org/blog/3-tips-to-help-perfect-your-fine-arts-challenge-solution/>

### **Scientific (FIRST ENCOUNTER) Team Tips**

Even if your personal hero isn't Jonas Salk or Neil deGrasse Tyson, there's a part of everyone that is inspired by learning how the universe works. And, like all DI Challenges, the Scientific Challenge will require your team to explore many areas, from engineering to fine arts.

<https://www.destinationimagination.org/blog/5-tips-to-help-cultivate-your-scientific-challenge-solution/>

### **Improv (TO THE RESCUE) Team Tips**

Improv is much more than getting up on a stage and making things up. Just like the other DI Challenges, the Improv Challenge requires careful pre-tournament planning to be able to create a Presentation that is truly unique, compelling and fun. So, then what do Improv teams need to do in order to be successful? Here are a few tips to help you out.

<https://www.destinationimagination.org/blog/mastering-the-art-of-improv/>

### **Engineering (IN THE CARDS) Team Tips**

**THIS BLOG POST EXCELLENT FOR ALL TEAMS** - If you already participate in DI, you know what "Do It Yourself" is all about. But are your team props still suffering in the cosmetic or construction department? There are many online resources that offer tips and tutorials, so to help sort it all out, this alumni decided to round-up some of the best DIY websites.

<https://www.destinationimagination.org/blog/diy-resource-round-up/>

### **Service Learning (IT'S ABOUT TIME) Team Tips**

When you select the Service Learning Challenge, you have fun and learn, but you also get to make an impact in the world by working to address a real community need. A former DI Service Learning Alumni shares some things to keep in mind as you embark on this adventure.

<https://www.destinationimagination.org/blog/service-learning-challenge-tips-for-teams/>

## APPENDIX D: DI Performance Videos

Challenge A: Technical (On Target) - Busted Biscuits - 7th place - Secondary - DI Global Finals 2019

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oG\\_LT0aMTZ4](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oG_LT0aMTZ4)

Challenge A: Technical (On Target) - Team Aero Einstein - Elementary - DI Global Finals 2019

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oRuQOZJwxwM>

Challenge B: Scientific (Medical Mystery) - Seven Life Saving Scientists, Ohio - Elementary- DI Global Finals 2019

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oTeUfTIBHtk>

Challenge B: Scientific (Medical Mystery) - It's Classified - Middle - DI Global Finals 2019

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mQijM46Nj-M>

Challenge C: Fine Arts (Game On) - Butterfly Effect - Secondary - DI Global Finals 2019

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cVtOOB4uDdA>

Challenge D: Improv (Heads Up) - Middle Level - DI Global Finals 2019

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BvtbYtpjo34>

Challenge E: Engineering (Monster Effects) - The Bilge Busters - Middle - DI Global Finals 2019

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZQ00h1-NvII>

Challenge E: Engineering (Monster Effects) - The Spicy Avacados, Turkey - Middle - High IC Score - DI Global Finals 2019

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=x-xvTxF3rlk>

Project Outreach/Service Learning (Escape Artists) - Service Ninjas, Texas - Elementary - DI Global Finals 2019

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=v5loKEi7F0M>

Rising Stars Destination Imagination 2018

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RRyAWRS0Ms8>