



**DESTINATION
IMAGINATION®**

TEXAS

GULF COAST REGION

Why Do DI?

**Learn the creative process from
Imagination to Innovation.**

**Imagine
Create
Perform**

**How Do I Do DI
in CFISD?**

Look inside!

“If every student had opportunities such as these made possible through DI, our children would undoubtedly be future-ready!”

Helen Soule, Partnership for 21st Century Learning

Destination Imagination is an educational program where student teams solve open-ended challenges and present their solutions at tournaments. Teams in Destination Imagination learn higher-order thinking and improve in creative thinking, critical thinking and collaborative problem solving. Participants learn and experience the creative process, develop new friendships, and learn to work together.

There are six new Challenges to choose from each year. Each of the Challenges is developed by a team of educators and industry experts who target a particular area of the curriculum and its related standards of content and performance. The areas of focus include Technical, Scientific, Engineering, Fine Arts, Improvisational, and Service Learning. There is also a non-competitive Early Learning Challenge that allows our youngest team members to begin to develop their social and problem-solving skills.

Researchers from the University of Virginia’s Curry School of Education conducted an independent research evaluation of the DI program. Among other findings, the researchers reported, “Students who participated in the activities and tournaments provided by DI outperformed comparable students who had not participated in DI on assessments measuring creative thinking, critical thinking, and collaborative problem solving.

Visit DestinationImagination.org to watch participant testimonials and educator interviews.

Contact your campus Destination Imagination Liaison to learn more about forming or joining a team.

JOIN A TEAM TODAY!!!

**Gulf Coast Regional DI Tournament- 2/15/25
Affiliate Tournament (Lone Star Finals)-3/28-29/25
Global DI Finals- date coming soon!**

2024-2025 Challenge Previews



TECHNICAL CHALLENGE : BREAKING POINT

Build it up and knock it down! In this Challenge, your team will go from the highest heights to the lowest lows as you use team-created equipment to build and destroy stacks of items. What will a character do when their greatest wishes encounter a frustration point? Will it all come tumbling down? Find out in this season's Technical Challenge!

- Design and build assembly equipment and destruction equipment.
- Use the assembly equipment to create a stack of items.
- Use the destruction equipment to disassemble and/or destroy the stack.
- Create and present a story about a character who lacks something important and attempts to gain it.
- Create and present two Team Choice Elements that show off the team's interests, skills, areas of strength, and talents.



ENGINEERING CHALLENGE: HIGH WIRE ACT

Come one, come all to the greatest show on Earth! Join us for a daring feat of high-wire innovation as you test a transporter that will carry weights along a tournament-provided cord. Present a story in the style of contemporary circus and don't forget to include a daring display! This season's Engineering Challenge isn't clowning around!

- Design and build a transporter that will be tested during the team's Presentation.
- Complete weight transport tests to test how much weight the transporter can carry along a tournament-provided cord at various angles.
- Create and present a story in the style of contemporary circus.
- Include a daring display and an ensemble spectacle in the Presentation.
- Create and present two Team Choice Elements that show off the team's interests, skills, areas of strength, and talents.



SCIENTIFIC CHALLENGE: WORLD'S BEYOND

SPACE, THE FINAL FRONTIER...JOIN US FOR THIS SEASON'S SCIENTIFIC CHALLENGE AS YOU EXPLORE THE COSMOS. YOUR TEAM WILL TELL A STORY ABOUT A CHARACTER WHO FIGURES OUT THEY ARE NOT ALONE ON A PLANET. SHOW OFF YOUR SCIENCE FICTION SKILLS WITH SOME OUT-OF-THIS-WORLD TECHNOBABBLE. WHAT WILL HAPPEN WHEN YOU GO BEYOND THE STARS?

- **CREATE AND PRESENT A STORY IN WHICH A CHARACTER WHO IS LOCATED ON A PLANET OTHER THAN EARTH THINKS THEY ARE ALONE BUT DISCOVERS THAT THEY ARE NOT.**
- **INCLUDE TECHNOBABBLE IN THE STORY.**
- **DESIGN AND BUILD A DEVICE AND/OR EFFECT THAT DEMONSTRATES WHAT THE TECHNOBABBLE DESCRIBES.**
- **INCLUDE A SCIENTIFIC DEMONSTRATION THAT SHOWS THE SCIENCE BEHIND WHY A SPECIFIC PHENOMENON OF THE PLANET HAPPENS AND/OR EXISTS.**

- **CREATE AND PRESENT TWO TEAM CHOICE ELEMENTS THAT SHOW OFF THE TEAM'S INTERESTS, SKILLS, AREAS OF STRENGTH, AND TALENTS.**



FINE ARTS CHALLENGE: LESS IS MORE

How can the simplest of things convey the most? Your team will tell a story about something small that can have a big impact and move the audience with an emotional moment. Be strategic with your use of color and shape as you design a big visual impact with your set. It's time to explore minimalism in this season's Fine Arts Challenge!

- Create and present a story about how something small and/or simple can create a big impact.
- Include a focal character in the story.
- Include an emotional moment in the story.
- Design and create a minimalist set.
- Create and present two Team Choice Elements that show off the team's interests, skills, areas of strength, and talents.



IMPROVISATIONAL CHALLENGE: ARE WE THERE YET?

FROM BEGINNING TO END, WE MUST TRAVEL A PATH TO GET WHERE WE WANT TO GO! USE YOUR IMPROVISATIONAL SKILLS TO TELL A STORY ABOUT A CHARACTER TRAVELING BETWEEN TWO LOCATIONS. INCLUDE A CHARACTER WHO IS TRYING TO FIND SOMETHING AND A DETOUR THAT CAUSES AN UNFORESEEN CHANGE IN THE PLAN OR ROUTE. IT'S TIME TO HIT THE ROAD WITH THIS SEASON'S IMPROVISATIONAL CHALLENGE!

- **CREATE AND PRESENT AN IMPROVISATIONAL SKIT ABOUT A TRAVELING CHARACTER.**
- **RESEARCH LOCATIONS AND SHOW THE CHARACTER'S ROUTE BETWEEN A STARTING LOCATION AND AN ENDING LOCATION.**
- **RESEARCH MODES OF TRANSPORTATION AND INCORPORATE ONE INTO THE SKIT.**
- **INCLUDE A SEEKER AND A DETOUR IN THE SKIT.**



SERVICE LEARNING CHALLENGE: THIS OR THAT

LEFT OR RIGHT, APPLE OR ORANGE, SMILE OR FROWN...THE WORLD IS FULL OF CHOICES! YOUR TEAM WILL TELL A STORY ABOUT A CHARACTER WHO MUST MAKE A CRITICAL CHOICE AFTER CONSIDERING POTENTIAL OUTCOMES. A BINARY DEVICE WILL ENHANCE YOUR PRESENTATION BY COMPLETING TWO TASKS AT ONCE! WHERE WILL YOUR DECISIONS LEAD IN THIS SEASON'S SERVICE LEARNING CHALLENGE?

- **IDENTIFY, DESIGN, CARRY OUT, AND EVALUATE A PROJECT THAT ADDRESSES A NEED IN A REAL COMMUNITY.**
- **CREATE AND PRESENT A STORY ABOUT A CHARACTER WHO MUST MAKE A CRITICAL CHOICE.**
- **INCLUDE AT LEAST TWO POTENTIAL OUTCOMES AND A COMPLICATION IN THE STORY.**
- **INCLUDE A DEVICE THAT COMPLETES TWO DIFFERENT TASKS FROM THE SAME INITIATION IN THE PRESENTATION.**
- **CREATE AND PRESENT TWO TEAM CHOICE ELEMENTS THAT SHOW OFF THE TEAM'S INTERESTS, SKILLS, AREAS OF STRENGTH, AND TALENTS.**



EARLY LEARNING / RISING STARS®: WEATHER TOGETHER

Rain, snow, wind, sun, and hail! There are so many different kinds of weather and lots of wonderful activities that can only be done during the perfect kind of weather. Your team will tell a story about a character who is learning about one kind of weather for the very first time. It's a great day for some outdoor fun!

- Research different kinds of weather.
- Create and present a play about a character learning about a kind of weather for the very first time.
- Include a teacher character and a special weather activity in the story.
- Design and create a weather costume and a weather special effect.
- Create and present one Team Choice Element that shows off the team's interests, skills, areas of strength, and talents.



INSTANT CHALLENGE

Instant Challenges require teams to engage in quick, creative and critical thinking.

- In a world with growing cultural connections, increased levels and types of communication, and a new need for real-time teamwork and problem solving, the ability to solve problems quickly is becoming increasingly critical.
- Each team will be asked to solve an Instant Challenge for their DI tournament. The team must think on their feet by applying appropriate skills to produce a solution in a short period of time.
- Instant Challenges are performance-based, task-based, or a combination of the two. Although each Instant Challenge has different requirements, all Instant Challenges reward teams for their teamwork. Instant Challenges are kept confidential until it is time for teams to solve them.

Grade and Age Requirements

EARLY LEARNING/RISING STARS®: Kindergarten - 2nd grade

ELEMENTARY LEVEL: 3rd - 5th Grade or no student born before June 15, 2013

MIDDLE LEVEL: 6th-8th Grade or no student born before June 15, 2010

SECONDARY LEVEL: 9th-12th Grade or no student born before June 15, 2006

How Do I Do DI in CFISD?

Team Organization

1. A DI team is comprised of 2-7 currently enrolled CFISD students.
*Rising Stars teams are highly encouraged to have at least 5 members.
2. Team members can come from different grade levels, **grades K-12**. Teams will compete at the level of their oldest team member.
3. A parent must supervise the team and assume the role of Team Manager.
4. A campus staff member may serve as the Team Manager if no parent is available.
5. The Team Manager must obtain and complete an Authorization to Purchase a Team form, obtain the required administrator's signature, and submit it at bit.ly/DI_Team_Form by **October 25, 2024**. All teams must follow the rules of both the competition and local, state, and national authorities in terms of health and safety protocols.
6. Needs for any materials must be handled by the team itself. The district cannot provide these resources.
7. The Team Manager should attend all required Team Manager training sessions.
8. Submitting the team authorization form will identify the team as a CFISD team. The Team Manager must register the team with Destination Imagination at www.RegisterYourTeam.org and comply with DI background check requirements.

CFISD Responsibilities

1. The district will provide access to training sessions for Team Managers.
2. The district will pay the affiliate (Lone Star Finals) tournament registration fee and the Global tournament registration fee for traditional (Challenge Experience only) teams who advance on merit.

Student and Parent Responsibilities

1. Parents ensure that team members safely participate in all team practices.
2. Parents support the Team Manager's needs and requests for team practices.
3. Parents acquire materials for costumes, props, scenery for Challenge solution.
4. Parents provide snacks and materials at practices.

For additional information, contact Michele.Krimsky@cfisd.net

These policies are subject to change in response to modifications to the program or tournament design made by Destination Imagination, TexasDI (Lone Star Finals), or Gulf Coast Regional Destination Imagination.