

Rudy Elementary Science Challenges 2009-2010

The Rudy Science Challenge Program is designed to increase student's interest in science, to provide students with critical thinking and problem solving situations, and to increase their individual and group science process skills. These Science Challenges will be held during the months of October, March and April. The challenges are announced school wide on the first school day of that month and are generally due during the last week of that month. Some challenges are designed to be tested in front of an audience and some are projects that will be handed in. Judging will take place during the event when necessary and recognition for outstanding performance will be done during the following month's Share Assembly. Judges will be impartial members of the community. All projects and challenge entries will be on display in the school for viewing throughout the month.

1. The Challenge will be announced during morning announcements on the first day of the Challenge month. A written copy will be posted in each of the classrooms and available from classroom teachers or Mrs. Calvin. Teachers may discuss the Challenge with their classes or students may be directed to Mrs. Calvin for more information.
2. The students are to work individually or in groups of 2 to 4. When working with a group, the meeting times should be outside of regular school hours. Groups are responsible for coordinating meeting times and places for their group to develop their projects. The groups may be composed of students from different classes or grades. (Judging will be done according to the highest grade level student involved.)
3. These groups of students will then bring their Challenge solutions to school on the designated Science Challenge day. Every student that enters the Challenge that month will receive a participation award. Other awards will be given according to the criteria of the specific Challenge.

Science Challenge Schedule

October – Science challenge announced: K-5th grade “Design and Build a Future Vehicle”

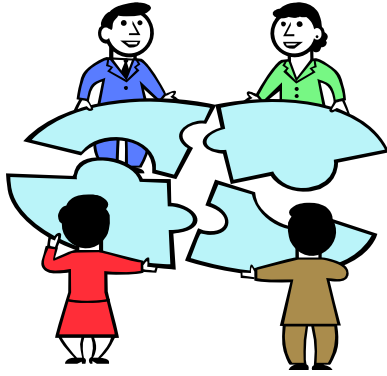
October 28th – After school science challenge: K-5th grade “Design and Build a Future Vehicle”

March 1st Science Challenge Night announced “Huff and Puff Mobile”

March 11th Science Challenge Night K- 5th grade “Huff and Puff Mobile”

April 5th Science Challenge announced: K-5th grade Second Annual “Recycled Fashion Show”

April 22nd The Second Annual “Recycled Fashion Show”



Rudy Elementary School Science Challenge Hints

1. Brainstorm the Challenge. Think, talk and record your various solutions. Consider a number of possible solutions. Discuss the many different solutions. Discard ideas that are not good. Keep the good ones.
2. Listen to each other carefully. Talk about each idea. Don't throw away ideas until you have checked them out completely.
3. Build on each other's ideas. Two or more minds can find better solutions when they work together. Great ideas will come from all of you working together.
4. Construct your solution neatly and carefully. Allow enough time to construct your solution neatly. Use proper measurements and neat construction. Neatness makes a project eye catching.
5. Test your solution. Find out whether or not your solution will solve the problem before the due date.

Rudy Elementary Science Challenge
Grades Kindergarten through 5th
Challenge held after school October 28th, 2009



Challenge: To design and build a model of a FUTURE vehicle.

Rules:

1. Participants may work individually or in groups of 2-4 students. All participants must be students at Rudy Elementary in grades K-5.
2. Model may not be a purchased kit. Vehicle should be made from “gathered” materials.
3. Future vehicle may be designed for air, water, or land, on Earth or in Space.
4. Teams will present their projects to a panel of judges after school from 2:30-4:00 in the science room on October 28th. Teams that cannot attend should turn in a written explanation of their vehicle.
5. The presentation will include the following:
 - How you built your model and the materials used
 - Why you chose that design
 - What advantage your vehicle has over current vehicles (If teams present after school on October 28th, their presentation does not need to be written)
6. Vehicles may be brought in on the day of the challenge and will be stored in the mini gym. We will not have room to store them prior to the challenge.
7. Vehicles will be displayed in the media center during the month of November.

Judging

A panel of judges will choose:

1. The most functional future land/all terrain vehicle
2. The most functional future sea/underwater vehicle
3. The most function future air/space vehicle
4. The most creative design
5. The most unique design

Awards will be presented at the November share assembly.

See Mrs. Calvin if you have any questions.

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