

# Mrs. Hodges Science Olympiad

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## Course Description

Science Olympiad is a national non-profit organization dedicated to improving the quality of K-12 science education, increasing interest in science, and creating a technologically-literate workforce. Science Olympiad involves challenging events in all

science disciplines; with a balance between science content knowledge, science process skills, science application and technology. In this course, students will prepare for and compete in several classroom-based science olympiad competitions.

*"To raise new questions, new possibilities, to regard old problems from a new angle, requires creative imagination and marks real advance in science."*

*-Albert Einstein*

## Instructor's Role

1. Involve students in an inquiry based approach to learning. This means that students will have opportunities to explore and investigate topics and formulate possible explanations.
2. Assist students in working through a designing and testing process in order to create a successful device.
3. Challenge students to think critically and improve their problem solving skills.
4. Provide a safe environment in which students can prepare for and compete in various science olympiad events.

## Course Resources and Materials

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**Course Website:** The course website will include the rules sheet for each event, links to resources and any assignments that go along with the event.

### Materials:

- ❖ Students will need a folder or binder to keep their Science Olympiad assignments in. No specific materials are required.
- ❖ Materials for each event will be provided, although students may also bring in items from home if they so choose.

## Student's Role

- ❖ **Respect each other:** Treat all members of our learning community as well as classroom materials with respect.
- ❖ **Own It:** Take ownership of learning through honesty, effort and a willingness to take risks.
- ❖ **Act Responsibly:** Act in a responsible manner by being prepared for class and maintaining focus on learning.
- ❖ **Reach for Excellence:** Set high expectations and work hard to reach them.

## Event List (not necessarily in this order)

Junkyard Challenge	1 Week
Rotor Egg Drop	1 Week
Compute This	1 Week
Experimental Design	1 Week
Mission Possible	2 Weeks
Write it, Do It	1 Week
Metric Mastery	1 Week
Elastic Launched Glider	2 Weeks
Towers	2 Weeks

## Classroom Policies and Procedures

Entering the Classroom: As you enter the classroom, sharpen your pencil if necessary and sit in your assigned seat. Copy the day's agenda into your student planner and either follow the directions on the board or wait quietly for instruction. If you enter the classroom after the bell rings, you will receive a tardy.

Leaving the Classroom: Classes are dismissed by the teacher, and only when materials are put away and all students are quietly seated.

Make up work: If you are absent from class, make-up work is **your** responsibility. When you return from an absence, be sure to ask your teacher for any work that is to be made up.

## Grading



For each event students will earn points for completing their assignments as well for the actual event. Some events will be done individually and will conclude with a test. Other events will be done in pairs or groups and will be scored based on the success of the device during the competition. Both notebook and event points will carry the same weight.

### Grading Scale:

93-100%	A
90-92%	A-
87-89%	B+
83-86%	B
80-82%	B-
77-79%	C+
73-76%	C
70-72%	C-
67-69%	D+
63-66%	D
60-62%	D-
0-59%	E

Late Work: Work that is turned in after the due date will receive partial credit.

Assessment Retake Policy: Students will be allowed to retake individual events only. Appointments must be set up within one week of the test being handed back. Retakes will need to be scheduled either before or after school. There will be no retakes or re-dos on team events.

Passes: It is important for students to be in class and participating in class activities. Therefore, student passes are limited. Students may only leave the classroom during work time, (*not* during whole class activities) and with teacher permission.

Consequences: If students choose not to follow the above procedures and expectations, we will meet to mutually discuss and decide upon the consequences. Referrals to the office will be handled according to the DeWitt Jr. High code of conduct