



Elementary Science Olympiad Event Updates



Last update: 3/13/20

General Questions & Logistics

Are the students allowed a binder/study/reference/cheat sheets for the written test during Map Reading, Starry, Starry Night, or any event where there is a written test given?

Students are not allowed a binder/study/reference/cheat sheets unless specified in the rules.

Could the students use their notes for anything like deep blue sea? **No notes for Deep Blue Sea.**

What happens if we are short students? As of now, I only have about 14 kids that can make it. **Just bring the students you have, and they can participate as much as they can.**

Mission Possible:

Local Rule will require the build will not exceed 30 inches x 30 inches.

Is the height still 1.5m? **Yes. It is 1.5m.**

Do we need to submit a flow chart to the Event Supervisor? **Yes.**

Rule 1 says that there must be a sound or flag depending if it is an even or odd year, is this still required, and if so, is this an even or odd year? **This is an even year, so they must produce a loud sound at the one-minute mark.**

Need clarification on rules for time to accomplish the task. The description portion states that children need to use 20 unique action transfers to accomplish given task in 2 minutes.

Under Rule 1A. Make a loud sound at the end of one minute (maximum duration 5 seconds)

Under Rule 4. The task must be accomplished as close to 2 minutes as possible.

So the task as I understand in even year 2020 is make a loud sound. However, the loud sound (the task) needs to be made at end of one minute but the task must be accomplished as close to 2 minutes as possible. Was the one minute a typographical error?

1B states raise a flag at the end of 2 minutes (however, this is the task for odd years)

Students have two minutes to complete all actions; at the one-minute mark, their machine must make a loud sound.

Will all the forms of energy be expected (# 6 on event description)?

Not all forms of energy are required. They can do as many as they wish, and they will get points for each form of energy they use.

Bottle Music:

Are the children allowed to bring/make a basket or container to hold the bottles while playing the bottles?

I do not have a problem with students having a container to hold the bottles, but it cannot aid in how much water is allowed. Container sides must be below the water level of their smallest amount of water.

I have a small concern with the Bottle Music event. It says that the students are to make music by blowing across the opening of the bottle, and that they cannot strike the bottles, but with the current COVID-19 fears, I do not feel comfortable having my students putting their mouths on the bottles. Would it be possible to either strike the bottles to play the song, or if even changing the event to allow the use of crystal glasses and running their fingers on the rim of crystal glasses. Both still require the students to tune their bottles/glasses, but it changes the ways it can be played.



We are not providing the bottles.

Students will bring their own bottles that only they will use. There will be no danger from sharing, as students will not be sharing.

What type of bottles will be used? **Plastic or glass.**

Do the students need to play, "America- My Country Tis of Thee" and a song of their choice? If true, how long of the songs do they need to be able to play?

I will get back to you on this question.

Bottle Music, we are planning on using glass beer/soft drink bottles. These bottles have paper labels. Do we need to remove the paper? The bottles also have markings from the manufacturer (separate from the paper label). Is that acceptable? **They need to remove all labels. Obviously, markings by the manufacturer are okay.**

b. Are the kids allowed to bring a tuning device such those used for tuning A-string on violin so that the kids have least one bottle tuned correctly as reference point.

No tuning device; tuning must be done by ear.



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What type of bottles do we need or are they supplied?

Students provide their own bottles, which may be plastic or glass.

Starry, Starry Night:

Will students be able to talk with each other? (Looking at rule #1) **No talking. Students are not allowed to talk.**

Pastamobile:

Local Rule ramp will have a height of 0.5 meters and length of 1.5 meters

What kind of pasta do we need?: **Any supermarket variety of uncooked pasta (In the rules, under Procedure, refer to number 1 for type of pasta to use.)**

Do we bring a ramp or do they provide it? **We will provide the ramp**

If you provide the ramp, what materials we it be made out of? **It will most likely to made of plywood.**

Can the pasta be hard or soft? **Pasta can fresh (soft) or dry pasta uncooked.**



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Pastamobile- Do we need to bring samples of the pasta used to the event? **Yes.**

Can we use glue inside of the pasta? **No Only minimal use of glue is allowed.**

Do we build this on our own and then bring it to the competition? **Yes. Build it and bring it with you.**

Is there a limit to the number of types of pasta that can be used? **No limit.**

Can you use any shape pasta for the pasta mobile?

Students may use any shape pasta (uncooked)

Egg Drop: Local Rule

I have attached pictures of the device we will use. As you can see from the pictures (below), the dropping mechanism will be attached to a board, which will be suspended from an opening in the roof of the school. The drop height will be approximately 16-17 feet. As you can see from the photos, students must have some kind of loop on their device. Students on the ground will attach their device to the mechanism, pull the string to the top, where their device will release.



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