

# Top 10 Reasons to be a Destination ImagiNation® Team Manager

- ★ Minimal qualifications (can you spell DI?).
- ★ Party conversations become a breeze . . . you'll always have an answer to "What's new with you?"
- ★ Keeping up with your team keeps you forever young (... or gives your hair those distinguished silver highlights).
- ★ "Destination ImagiNation® Team Manager" looks good on resume.
- ★ "No Interference" rule means "It's not your job to solve the Challenge."
- ★ Team managing expands your shopping horizons . . . hardware stores take on a whole new look.
- ★ You have the opportunity to travel with lots of children to exotic locations . . . by van and bus.
- ★ Destination ImagiNation® expands your stockpile of useful junk.
- ★ Team materials hide nasty scratches on your dining table.
- ★ Destination ImagiNation® cures the mid-winter blues. Time flies when you're having fun!

## Bonus Reasons:

- ★ Opportunity to teach real-world life-long skills to a bunch of kids you'll learn to love.
- ★ The satisfaction of seeing a bunch of disorganized kids come together as a team to create a unique solution that they can be proud of.
- ★ They'll rub off on you and you'll be more creative as well.

**You can have a tremendous impact  
on a great bunch of kids.**

**Without volunteer Team Managers,  
there can be no teams.**

# TOP 10 Things I Have Learned as a DI Team Manager

by Deb Ellsworth (Minnesota Team Manager)

1. Learn from veteran Team Managers.
  - Read the DINI list ([www.groups.yahoo.com/group/dini](http://www.groups.yahoo.com/group/dini)) and ask questions on it if you need to.
  - You can get a lot of answers at [www.idodi.org/disc](http://www.idodi.org/disc)
  - Talk to other Team Managers, your coordinator, your Affiliate DI people.
2. No matter how long you've been doing this, it's *still* hard to bite your tongue and say nothing.
3. Kids move at their own pace, which is slower and more meandering than adults. That's okay.
4. They will listen to each other better than they will listen to you.
5. The point of the *Central Challenge* is not to get the best solution to the challenge. It is to achieve the best possible solution by the kids to the challenge *through the creative problem solving process*.
6. Sometimes, these kids will absolutely blow you away with what they come up with!
7. Sometimes teams have to fall flat on their faces to learn something.
8. It really *is* the process more than the product that counts. When they tell you that every team that makes it to the tournament is a winner, that's not just a "feel good" pep talk. It's true.
9. DI means more to the kids than you realize. For many of them, it becomes a large part of their identity.
10. You will be amazed at what *you* get out of this. Being a DI Team Manager is incredibly rewarding!

As a Team Manager, you have the opportunity to make a major impact on young people.

Make sure you take advantage of training opportunities, either as a new Team Manager, a Co- or Assistant Manager, or as an experienced Team Manager. You'll receive lots of tips and ideas that you can use with your team.

A Training Workshop is held in December for Team Managers and Coordinators. Contact Judy Nolan, Co-Affiliate Training Director, for more information:

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