What is Science Olympiad? Science Olympiad is one of the premier science competitions in the nation, providing rigorous, standards-based challenges to a team of 15 students. Science Olympiad's line-up of events in Science, Technology, Engineering, & Math (STEM) disciplines exposes students to a variety of career choices and dynamic content experiences.

Simpson’s Science Olympiad Team: We are bringing back Science Olympiad to Simpson! A team of 15 Olympians will be formed to compete in tournaments consisting of 23 exciting Science Olympiad events. Each team member will participate in 2 or 3 events. If you are interested in participating in this team, please stop by Mr. LaMarca’s room (6S3) to pick up an application packet or email Mr. LaMarca at John.Lamarca@cobbk12.org for more information. Simpson’s mission for our Science Olympiad team is to promote a fun, hands-on way to make science exciting and foster a passion for the subject, while advancing teamwork, cooperation, and problem solving skills.

What are the team commitments? Team members must commit to practice weekly for assigned events (practice times will be established by event coaches and team members). Team members will also need to commit to be present at the following:

• Student/Coach Workshop: October 28, 2017 at Dodgen Middle School
• Dodgen Invitational Tournament: January 20, 2018 at Dodgen Middle School
• State Middle School Tournament: March 10, 2018 at South Cobb High School

NOTE: The above events are on Saturdays. Transportation to and from the event is the responsibility of the team member’s parent.

2017-2018 Science Olympiad Middle School Events:

• **Anatomy & Physiology** - Understand the anatomy and physiology of the human body systems
• **Battery Buggy** - Teams will construct a vehicle that uses electrical energy as its sole means of propulsion, quickly travels a specified distance, and stops as close as possible to the Finish Point
• **Crime Busters** - Given a scenario, a collection of evidence, and possible suspects, students will perform a series of tests that along with other evidence will be used to solve a crime
• **Disease Detectives** - Participants will use their investigative skills in the scientific study of disease, injury, health, and disability in populations or groups of people with a focus on Food Borne Illness
• **Dynamic Planet** - Participants will demonstrate an understanding of the large-scale processes affecting the structure of Earth’s crust
• **Ecology** - Participants will answer questions involving content knowledge and process skills in the area of ecology and adaptations in featured North American biomes
• **Experimental Design** - This event will determine the participants’ ability to design, conduct, and report the findings of an experiment actually conducted on site
• **Fast Facts** - Teams will provide terms that begin with a given letter and match given science categories to fill in a grid
• **Herpetology** - This event will test knowledge of amphibians and reptiles
• **Hovercraft** - Participants will be tested on their knowledge of classical mechanics and related topics as well as their ability to construct a self-propelled, air-levitated vehicle that moves down a track
• **Meteorology** - Participants will use scientific process skills to demonstrate an understanding of factors that influence world climate and use of models to understand/estimate impacts of different changes
• **Microbe Mission** - Teams will answer questions, solve problems, and analyze data pertaining to microbes
• **Mystery Architecture** - At the beginning of the event, teams will be given a bag of building materials and instructions for designing and building a device that can be tested
• **Optics** - Teams participate in an activity involving positioning mirrors to direct a laser beam towards a target and are tested on their knowledge of geometric and physical optics
• **Potions and Poisons** - This event is about chemical properties and effects of specified toxic and therapeutic chemical substances, with a focus on household and environmental toxins or poisons
• **Road Scholar** - Participants will answer interpretive questions that may use one or more state highway maps, USGS topographic maps, Internet-generated maps, a road atlas or satellite/aerial images
• **Rocks & Minerals** - Participants will demonstrate their knowledge of rocks and minerals
• **Roller Coaster** - Prior to the competition, teams design, build, and test a Roller Coaster track to guide a vehicle that uses gravitational potential energy as its sole means of propulsion to travel as close as possible to a target time
• **Solar System** - Students will demonstrate an understanding and knowledge of the geologic characteristics and evolution of the Earth’s moon and other rocky bodies of the solar system
• **Thermodynamics** - Teams must construct an insulating device prior to the tournament that is designed to retain heat and complete a written test on thermodynamic concepts
• **Towers** - Prior to the competition, teams will design and build a Tower meeting requirements specified in these rules to achieve the highest structural efficiency
• **Wright Stuff** - Prior to the tournament teams design, construct, and test free flight rubber-powered monoplanes to achieve maximum time aloft
• **Write It Do It** - One student will write a description of an object and how to build it, and then the other student will attempt to construct the object from this description

**Parent Coaches NEEDED!** If you have spent nights dreaming of flying model airplanes, building robots or teaching kids the science behind earthquakes, then Simpson Science Olympiad Team has a job for you as a Science Olympiad Coach! Please email Mr. LaMarca at [John.Lamarca@cobbk12.org](mailto:John.Lamarca@cobbk12.org) if you would be interested in coaching one of these Science Olympiad events!