Honors Physics

Odd Squad Curriculum Challenge

Introduction

The series follows the exploits of Odd Squad, an organization run entirely by children, that solves peculiar problems using math skills.

Agents are typically assigned cases by their boss, Ms. O (Millie Davis), and travel via a system of interconnected tubes to get to their destinations. They deduce the solution to the problem or how to detain the perpetrator by using basic mathematical principles that are typically the focus of the episode. Often, they cannot solve the problem at the scene and must go back to their precinct's headquarters or to the "Mathroom," a sentient space that communicates through large paper fortune tellers and can unfold them to display information to help the agents see connections and better solve their case.

In this assignment, you will create an physics-based activity for an Odd Squad segment. All activities that pass the Mr. Walters' Test for Excellence will be forwarded to the producers of Odd Squad.

Directions

1. Use the activity model provided separately.
2. You will be working in pairs.
3. Go to the PBS Odd Squad Website. Highlight Clips.
4. On the side bar, find your assigned clip.

Mystery on a Train: Group 1 and 8
The MiniGolf Tournament: Groups 2 and 7
Battle for the Title: Groups 3 and 6
OSMU Plays Dirty: Groups 4 and 5

5. Watch the clip and identify the physics concept you wish to focus on.
6. Create a Google Doc named 20HPhysLastName1LastName2Odd Squad.

Developing Your Activity

1. Remember that Odd Squad's target audience is Grades 5 to 8 (which explains why Mr. Walters likes it).
2. Create a worksheet that includes the following:

A. Background information
B. Vocabulary
C. Activity
D. Conclusion

3. It is probably not a good idea to have students actually collect data. However, as noted in the example, you can give students observations and data and have them make conclusions about that data.
4. Use appropriate images to "support the learning."
5. On Friday, you will present your activity - 5 minutes maximum.
6. As a class, you will vote for best activity, most creative and best application of physics.