

# Volunteering at The Imagination Lab

## Frequently Asked Questions

### **1. Who can volunteer?**

Parents, grandparents, family members, community members, retirees...anyone with an interest in helping students learn at The Imagination Lab.

### **2. How do I volunteer?**

[Sign up!](#) We will have 2-3 months of Odyssey dates at a time available on the forms attached to our website (<http://bit.ly/TILVolunteer>). The form will ask for your name, email address, phone number, and choices for selecting morning or afternoon (or both!) sessions on each Odyssey date. You can complete the form as many times as you like.

### **3. What times of the day are volunteers needed?**

We have two Odyssey sessions per day. A morning session from 9:15 - 10:45 am and afternoon from 1:30 - 3:00 pm. We ask our volunteers to arrive 30 minutes before a session and to stay 15 minutes after students leave. To volunteer for a morning session, please plan to arrive at 8:45 am and stay until 11:00 am. To volunteer for an afternoon session, please plan to arrive at 1:00 pm and stay until 3:15 pm. (We'll be looking for volunteers to work outside of Odyssey session times,, but we are targeting Odysseys as the most important volunteer need right now).

### **4. When can I volunteer?**

You are able to volunteer as often as you would like. You might prefer once a month, once a semester, weekly, twice a week -- it is totally up to you and your schedule. We are thankful for your time and willingness to contribute to The Imagination Lab.

### **5. What types of jobs are available as a volunteer?**

You can volunteer for several different tasks in the lab. Once you have attended a training session, you will be able to determine tasks that are best suited for you. The following list is the current tasks we have identified as volunteer opportunities in The Lab:

- Assist with student learning during an Odyssey
- Help prepare materials for students to use during an Odyssey
- Welcome and organize other volunteers
- Work on side projects throughout The Lab.
- Work in the Learning Garden
- Organize equipment and donated items in the storage room

## **6. Why do I need to attend a training session?**

Attending a training session meets our district requirement of providing volunteers proper training on processes, procedures and equipment. It also provides an opportunity for us to fully explain the scope of work each volunteer task will involve and to answer any of your questions.

### **Training Sessions @ The Imagination Lab**

Tuesday, May 1 6:30 - 7:30

Thursday, May 3 9:15 am - 2:30 pm

(additional sessions will be added in June and August)

## **7. Can I volunteer when my child attends an Odyssey in The Lab?**

Of course you can volunteer when you child attends an Odyssey in The Lab! However, we cannot guarantee that you will be working directly with your child or the group your child is assigned to. We will want you to be engaged with the project you are volunteering for during that session as opposed to overseeing your child's experience during the Odyssey.

## **8. Why do I have to complete a background check?**

The Imagination Lab is a student-centered learning environment. Students will be strategically placed throughout The Lab during Odysseys. It is critical that all adults in The Lab have undergone a criminal background check so that everyone is comfortable with children interacting with adults volunteering in The Lab.

## **9. Can I travel with my child from their school to The Imagination Lab on a day when I am volunteering?**

No, we need volunteers to in place and ready to go before students arrive for the day. Also, the bus space is limited for transportation from Central and Van Buren Elementary (and Brentwood Elementary when weather requires).