

The DuPage Regional Office of Education STEM Squad invites you to participate in its Second Annual

Solutions Showcase

Calling all DuPage Middle School/Junior High Innovators!

With a team, create a video showcasing your solutions to a real-life STEM problem.

Think about an item you normally throw away or recycle. How could you repurpose that item instead of discarding it?

This process is known as – **Upcycling**, which means to “*creatively reuse*.”

Problem: What new purpose can your team create for something that is normally discarded?

This creative solution would keep the item out of the recycling bin or landfill and transform it into a useful product.

Your team will then create and produce a video to communicate your unique solution to this STEM problem.



Solutions Showcase Details

This topic was chosen for the Solutions Showcase out of a global concern: we throw out too much stuff!

Remember that good solutions are the result of gathering accurate information, creating viable alternatives, and communicating ideas clearly.

Getting Started

Synopsis of Showcase Solutions Activity

- Teams collaboratively identify a refuse item for the showcase.
- They will design and create a new product using the selected item.
- Students must observe safety precautions while completing their work, using adult supervision, if needed, with tools and materials.
- Name and promote this new product in a video created by the team. (*Details in Entries Section on the next page*).

Real World Application for this STEM Project

Upcycling is a vital step in the “wasting less” mindset. Students recognize they actually can do something to reduce the garbage they generate and make a difference in their world. Upcycling preserves landfill space and reduces the need for raw material to make new products. The ultimate goal of this showcase is for students to broaden and deepen their awareness of and investment in their planet and its future health.

- ☑ Teams should consist of 3-5 students from your school currently in grade 5, 6, 7, or 8. A teacher sponsor from the school is also needed. Schools may sponsor multiple teams. All team members need not be in the same grade level.
- ☑ The sponsor of each team must complete a registration form on behalf of the team and each team member must submit a media release form completed and signed by a partner or guardian.
- ☑ The video submitted must be submitted in MP3 format and be no longer than three minutes in length.
- ☑ Videos must be submitted by the sponsor. A link and instructions will be provided to sponsors once applications have been reviewed and accepted.
- ☑ Content may not in any way promote or suggest illegal activity or actions. Anything construed as a violation of federal, state, or local legislation or law is strictly prohibited.
- ☑ If the video is done in a language other than English, an English translation must be included.

The video can be acted out, sung, done as an interview, or presented in any creative way. Whatever method chosen; the message must be clear. In addition to your sponsor, it would be a good idea to have someone outside your group check your script, as well as the video, before the sponsor submits it.

Solutions Showcase Requirements

Solutions Showcase is designed to engage students in a collaborative activity that builds STEM Skills, such as problem-solving and critical thinking, while empowering our next generation of innovators.

Participants

- Solutions Showcase is open to students attending schools located in DuPage County.
- Teams of three to five students from the same school must be sponsored by a certified staff person from their school.
- Students must currently be in grade 5, 6, 7, and/or 8. Students from the same school do not have to be in the same grade.
- Schools may have more than one team with the same or different sponsors.
- Sponsors must submit a completed Registration Form for the team(s) they sponsor. All participants must submit a signed Media Release Form.
- Teams not registered by the required date will not be permitted to enter the Solutions Showcase.

Entries

- The promotional message produced by the students must be submitted via link that will be provided later to sponsors. Only registered sponsors may submit the final product.
- Official entries may not exceed three minutes, even by a few seconds.
- The content of the videos must relate to the topic. Entries related to other topics will not be accepted.
- The content of the message cannot in any way promote illegal activity or actions that violate federal, state, or local legislation, rules, ordinances, or other similar criteria.
- The DuPage Regional Office of Education STEM Team will review each entry to determine whether it qualifies. The decision of the STEM Team is final.
- Qualifying entries will be posted on the DuPage Regional Office of Education YouTube channel and/or the STEM Team website.
- Notification of approval will be sent directly to team sponsors.

Timeline

- Sponsors of teams must register their teams by 4:00 pm on Wednesday, April 13, 2022.
- Teams may start work on their project any time after their team registration has been approved, which will be done by email to the sponsor.
- All video entries must be delivered to the designated folder/link no later than 4:00pm on Friday, May 6, 2022, at which time additional entries will be blocked.

Additional Requirements

- All sponsors and student participants must submit a signed media release form for videos to be posted.
- A copy has been attached. Individual copies will be emailed to all sponsors and parents/guardians of team members.

Questions

- Email Patricia Zriny, pzriny@dupageroe.org.

Solutions Showcase Registration Form

A completed registration form for each team must be submitted by the sponsor. Email forms to Patricia Zriny at pzriny@dupageroe.org no later than 4:00 pm, Wednesday April 13, 2022.

PLEASE PRINT OR WORD PROCESS

School Name:	
District Name/Number:	
Team Sponsor Name:	
Position (mark or highlight one): Teacher Administrator Other (specify)	
Contact Email:	Contact Phone:
<u>Student #1</u> <i>(first name, last name)</i> Name: Grade (mark or highlight one): 5 6 7 8	<u>Parent/Guardian Information for Student #1</u> Name: Phone (with area code): Email Address (required):
<u>Student #2</u> <i>(first name, last name)</i> Name: Grade (mark or highlight one): 5 6 7 8	<u>Parent/Guardian Information for Student #2</u> Name: Phone (with area code): Email Address (required):
<u>Student #3</u> <i>(first name, last name)</i> Name: Grade (mark or highlight one): 5 6 7 8	<u>Parent/Guardian Information for Student #3</u> Name: Phone (with area code): Email Address (required):
<u>Student #4</u> <i>(first name, last name)</i> Name: Grade (mark or highlight one): 5 6 7 8	<u>Parent/Guardian Information for Student #4</u> Name: Phone (with area code): Email Address (required):
<u>Student #5</u> <i>(first name, last name)</i> Name: Grade (mark or highlight one): 5 6 7 8	<u>Parent/Guardian Information for Student #5</u> Name: Phone (with area code): Email Address (required):



Solutions Showcase - Spring 2022 Media Release Form

Email completed forms to Patricia Zriny
pzriny@dupageroe.org

Dr. Darlene J Ruscitti
Superintendent, DuPage Regional Office of Education
421 N. County Farm Road
Wheaton, IL 60187

For Parents of Participating Students:

I grant the DuPage Regional Office of Education the right to capture, gather, and post photographs, videos, and/or other recordings of my student while engaged in Solutions Showcase activities. I understand that such representations can be used by the DuPage Regional Office of Education or its employees/service providers for any lawful purpose, which may include publicity, marketing, illustration, advertising, and web and social media content related to the work and responsibilities of the DuPage Regional Office of Education. Under no circumstances will the items to be used for the financial benefit of the DuPage Regional Office of Education. Published information may include the names and schools of the students involved in the activity.

My signature below indicates that I have read, understand, and agree to the above.

Print Parent/Guardian Name: _____

Print Student's Name: _____

Parent/Guardian: _____

Date: _____

For Sponsors:

I grant the DuPage Regional Office of Education the right to capture, gather and post photographs, videos, and/or other recordings of me while engaged in Solutions Showcase activities. I understand that such representations can be used by the DuPage Regional Office of Education or its employees/service providers for any lawful purpose, which may include publicity, marketing, illustration, advertising, and web or social media content related to the work and responsibilities of the DuPage Regional Office of Education. Under no circumstances will the items be used for the financial benefit of the DuPage Regional Office of Education. Published information may include my name, title, and school/district information.

My signature below indicates that I have read, understand, and agree to the above.

Print Name: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____