

ASME Egg Drop Contest

February 22, 2009 at the Science Museum of Virginia

Dear Teachers and Students:

For the past several years, ASME Central Virginia Section has been running an Egg Drop Contest for high school and middle school students at the RJEC Career Day at the Science Museum of Virginia in late February. This year the contest will be on February 22th.

The Egg Drop Rules are very simple. The objective is to design the lightest possible device that will prevent a medium size egg from breaking or cracking when it is dropped from a height of 25 feet. There are two types of device that may be submitted. The first utilizes a cushion design and the second uses a parachute. **No bubble wrap may be used in the design of the devices.**

We will start around 12:00 p.m. by registering the students and their devices. Each student must have his own individual device. No group designs are allowed. The registration process entails recording the weight of the device along with the student's name, teacher, and school. We then keep the device until the time of the contest. The entries are divided into the different design categories and between high school and middle school students. At the time of the contest, we give the students back their device along with an egg that they will use for the contest. **ASME provides the eggs.**

Each student drops his device onto a 4 foot by 4 foot square target. A penalty is added to the weight of the student's design if the device lands outside this target area. We also check to see if the egg survived the fall.

Winners are determined once everyone has dropped his device and the penalties are added to the overall weight of the device. Those devices that did not prevent the egg from breaking are still judged in the category Most Creative Design, although they are not considered as part of the overall contest. Each student will receive a certificate of participation. Winners receive trophies and cash prizes.

If there are any questions, please call or email Tony Marotto at 459-2266 or tm23075@msn.com.