

Gear up for more mind action



Hard at work: Participants in the Sabah leg of an earlier challenge working on their model. - File photo.



THE 12th leg of the RHB-The Star Mighty Minds Challenge 2015 will head to Sabah.

Despite the recent earthquake that shook the state and caused devastation, Sabah is still very much the “Land below the Wind” with its scenic beauty – rugged mountains, sandy beaches and the many islands dotting its coastline.

Its secondary school students are all set for the state challenge to be held at Suria Sabah Shopping Mall, Kota Kinabalu on Aug 22.

Now in its seventh year, the competition is jointly organised by Star Media Group Berhad (formerly known as Star Publications (Malaysia) Berhad) and RHB Banking Group.

Students will be challenged on their knowledge of current events and the ability to build an innovative model based on a theme. It helps if they have oratory skills and a good dose of creativity.

The competition is for both lower secondary and upper secondary school students.

There are four categories in the state challenge – multiple choice questions, hands-on challenge, oral presentation skills and buzzer quiz.

The hands-on challenge is where teams design a model based on a given theme (see below) and on the RHB-The Star Mighty Minds microsite (www.thestar.com.my/mighty-minds).

The champions of the state challenge in both categories will then represent their respective states in the National Challenge to be held in the Klang Valley.

Hands-on challenge

Teams (comprising three students each) will be given one hour to build an original, innovative model in response to the themes below.

The themes may be interpreted literally or figuratively, but should be aimed at resolving a problem in our society. The best models will offer a positive impact either on an identified customer or on the environment.

Since each team is required to explain their respective model to the judges, be proactive and brush up on your oral presentation skills as well.

On the day of the competition, only the top 10 teams for each category in the Multiple Choice Question Challenge will be eligible to take part in the hands-on challenge. It takes effort, talent and passion to

win but preparation is just as important.

On completion of the hands-on challenge, teams will be given three minutes to present their model to the panel of judges. Team members will have one minute each.

The models will be judged based on the following:

- * Understanding of the theme and how it impacts society;
- * The potential benefits of the model and its marketability;
- * The creative features of the model.

Teams will also be judged on the delivery style and language during the oral presentation.

Lower Secondary Theme: Verticality – Enabling wheel-chair bound people to get back on their feet.

Upper Secondary Theme: Cultural Tourism– Integrating traditional belief systems into modern tourism

Participants in both the Lower Secondary and Upper Secondary categories will be provided with a standard tool kit for each hands-on challenge.

You will be provided with a standard tool kit containing the following:

Two pairs of scissors, 1 pen knife, 1 tube of superglue, 1 tube of common glue, 1 roll of masking tape, 1 roll of cellophane tape, 1 roll of double-sided tape, 1 long ruler, 1 screwdriver and 3 pairs of gloves.

In addition, you will be provided with simple, disposable materials that you may use to construct your model.

Be prepared to be innovative and think on your feet when creating your model as some of the items may need to be substituted.

The materials you may be provided with include:

Mounting board (30cm x 40cm), manila paper (32cmx-50cm), coloured paper (21cm x 30cm), elastic bands, popsicle sticks, empty mineral water bottle (500ml), small plastic container with lid, square of fabric, piece of netting, paper clips, short length of string, straws, compact disc, beads, balloons, plastic bricks, chopsticks and a short length of rubber hose.

* You will not be allowed to bring in any material or tools of your own.

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