

TOP 5 tips

3 *Provide a hands-on math or engineering activity (we can help)!*

MATHCOUNTS can share quick, easy-to-set-up math games that work well for large or small groups. We also can provide engineering activities from our own programs or partner organizations in DoD STEM and the Defense STEM Education Consortium (DSEC). Request these materials by following the QR code on this guide!

1

Give participants tours of the DoD lab!

Kids love to see real-life projects in action! Having a math event at your lab could be what sparks a student's interest in STEM, and being able to give kids this opportunity is part of what makes your event special! Be sure to get permissions in place and have enough volunteers to ensure everyone can enjoy the tour and will go only where they are allowed.

2

Bring in a guest speaker to share their STEM story (DoD STEM can help)!

To be inspired to pursue STEM careers, kids need to see people they relate to in those careers...DoD STEM professionals make great role models! This also is a perfect opportunity to spotlight a leader at your lab. If you do not have someone able to attend, you can show one of the many DoD STEM spotlight videos. Follow the QR code below or go to dodstem.us/explore/video-library to access these.

4

Do prize drawings, trivia and smaller contests.

Smaller contests are a great way to recognize more students or schools at your event. Prize drawings can help you create excitement at a lower cost because only 1 large prize, which could be donated, is needed. Slideshows are a great way to keep kids and guests entertained during transitions, such as on-site check-in. Feature warm-up problems or fun facts and trivia about your lab!

5

Rotate locations and activities.

Especially after your team has hosted a few math contests, consider hosting at a new location so students can see different parts of your lab. Switch up the activities, trivia, games and guest speakers so repeat participants have a unique experience each year.

Learn more!



mathcounts.org/stemexchange