

# Academic Competitions and Resources

**This is not an exhaustive list. This is just a sampling of the competitions and resources available.**

**Copy and paste websites into a browser.**

ASCL American Computer Science League 7+ Fee Problems

<http://www.acsl.org/>

America's Battle of the books is a reading incentive program for students in 3<sup>rd</sup> thru 12<sup>th</sup> grades. Students read books and come together usually in groups to demonstrate their abilities and to test their knowledge of the books they have read.

<http://www.battleofthebooks.org/>

Middle school students will use fuel cells to power model cars.

<http://www.anl.gov/articles/model-fuel-cell-car-competition-fueling-future-scientists-and-engineers>

Celebrate Career Development Day and Week. Poetry and Poster Contest - Nov

[http://www.ncda.org/aws/NCDA/pt/sp/home\\_page](http://www.ncda.org/aws/NCDA/pt/sp/home_page)

The Chicago Metro History Education Center inspires students' interest in history and works to improve history education in middle grades and high school classrooms in Chicago and suburban Cook, Lake, and DuPage counties.

<http://www.chicagohistoryfair.org/>

Essay contest about fatherhood by the Chicago White Socks. March deadline

[http://www.4fathers.org/Resources/Documents/14%20Essay%20Packet%20\(5\).pdf](http://www.4fathers.org/Resources/Documents/14%20Essay%20Packet%20(5).pdf)

The Johns Hopkins Center for Talented Youth (CTY) and Cogito established the CTY Cogito Research Awards in 2013 to enable bright middle- and high-school students to conduct research in science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) fields. Applications due in Nov.

<https://cogito.cty.jhu.edu/>

Illinois FPSB, Inc. is an affiliate of the Future Problem Solving Program – International, Inc. State Bowls are in April.

<http://www.illinois-fpsb.com/>

Multiple contests and awards listed.

<http://www.hoagiesgifted.org/contests.htm>

Illinois Environmental Protection Agency statewide poster and poetry/prose contest. Entry by Feb.

<http://www.epa.state.il.us/kids/teachers/contest/>

IMSA CyberQuiz 4Kids features challenging online mathematics and science brainteasers and word problems for Illinois students grade 6-9. Monthly

<https://www.imsa.edu/extensionprograms/cyberquiz/index>

The Mathematical Association of America competitions are comprised of several contests based on age and invitational competition.

<http://www.maa.org/math-competitions/amc-contests>

Problem of the week, Algebra in Action, Middle School Madness and Elementary Brain Teaser.

<http://mathforum.org/library/view/7699.html>

Math Olympiad Program is Math Problem solving contests for teams of up to 35 students in grades 4 through 8. It is open only to schools, home schools and institutes (not individuals).

<http://www.moems.org/program.htm>

MATHCOUNTS Foundation offers a national middle school coaching and competitive mathematics program that promotes mathematics achievement through a series of fun and engaging "bee" style contests.

<http://www.mathcounts.org/>

The U.S. Department of Energy National Science Bowl is a nationwide academic competition that tests students' knowledge in all areas of science and mathematics. Middle and high school student teams from diverse backgrounds are comprised of four students, one alternate, and a teacher who serves as an advisor and coach. These teams face-off in a fast-paced question-and-answer format, being tested on a range of science disciplines including biology, chemistry, Earth science, physics, energy, and math.

<http://science.energy.gov/wdts/nsb/>

Play the GeoBee Challenge game and test your geography IQ with daily trivia questions from the National Geographic Bee.

<http://www.nationalgeographic.com/geobee/quiz/today/>

NACLO is a computational linguistics competition. The format is a written test with linguistic puzzles which you solve and then explain your reasoning for that solution. There are two rounds of the competition. The first is an open round, and if you do well on it you will be invited to compete in the invitational round. This is for 6<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> grade.

<http://www.naclo.cs.cmu.edu/index.html>

*Energy by Design* is a visual arts contest designed to bring students, teachers, and families together to become more aware of how to use energy wisely and its effects on the environment. Students in grades kindergarten through eighth who attend schools within the Nicor Gas service area are eligible to participate. *Energy by Design* was developed by Nicor and the National Energy Foundation to enhance Nicor's existing free natural gas instructional materials program in a new and exciting way.

<https://nicorgas.aglr.com/Universal/AboutUs/PressRoom/2009/20091216.aspx>

*Reading Pen Pals* can hook you up with a great book to read AND a pen pal to write to about it.

<http://www.readingpenpals.com/>

The MarketWatch is trading stocks in Real-time using your virtual portfolio.

<http://www.marketwatch.com/game/>

U.S. Academic Triathlon is a creative problem-solving competition for grades 5-8 students.

<http://www.academictriathlon.org/>

The essay contest encourages young minds to examine America's history, along with their own experiences in modern American society, by drafting a 300- to 400-word essay, expressing their views based on a patriotic theme chosen by the VFW Commander-in-Chief.

<http://www.vfw.org/PatriotsPen/>

ExploraVision is a science competition that goes beyond the typical student science competition and into what it takes to bring ideas to reality. A teacher will sponsor and lead his/her students as they work in groups of 2 – 4 to simulate real research and development. A teacher will guide his or her students as they pick a current technology, research it, envision what it might look like in 20 years, and describe the development steps, pros & cons, and obstacles. Past winners have envisioned technologies ranging from a hand-held food allergen detector to a new device to help people who have lost limbs regain movement in real time.

<http://www.exploravision.org/>

Updated 11/13/14  
Differentiation / Process