



CAROWINDS
EDUCATION DAYS
"2009" COASTER MANIA" COASTER BUILDING CONTEST

In conjunction with our 19th annual Education Days at Carowinds, we are pleased to announce the 2009 "Roller Coaster Mania" contest. Students will display their creations for all to see. During judging, they will be asked questions by our panel of experts in the engineering, electronics and operation fields. Winners will be called on stage for special recognition.

- WHAT: Roller Coaster Mania Competition
- WHERE: Carowinds Plaza Stage
- WHEN: May 8, 15, 29, June 2, 3, 4, 5
- Time: Between 11:00am - 1:00pm - our "Coaster Mania Host" will provide exact judging times on the day of your visit where your coasters are displayed. Judging times vary depending on the amount of entries that day.
- HOW TO PARTICIPATE: Complete and return the attached form indicating your commitment to:
 - (a) Team(s) that will construct a roller coaster model.
 - (b) Register your students and their model(s) for any of the days listed above.
- PRIZES: Two complimentary one-day admission tickets will be awarded to team members constructing the model chosen as "Overall Winner." Winners will be chosen from each grade level (Elementary, Middle School / Junior High & High School), on each of the dates listed above. A plaque will also be awarded to each "Overall Winner" school. Each participant will receive a certificate of participation. **YOU MUST PRE-REGISTER TO BE JUDGED.**



Return or Fax to:
(704) 943-2878
2 weeks prior to event
You must pre-register!

Carowinds Group Sales
Coaster Mania Coordinator
PO Box 410289
Charlotte, NC 28241-0289

Yes, my class will construct _____ coaster(s) and attend Education Days on (Please indicate the date of your visit).

Date: _____

School Name: _____ School Phone: (____) _____

School Street Address: _____ Teacher: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

E-mail Address _____ -

QUESTIONS? Contact Group Events Coordinator at 1-800-888-4386.

ROLLER COASTERS - A MATTER OF GRAVITY

During construction of your coaster the one, simple principle to remember is gravity. Lifts are built into the coaster track and once the top of the lift is reached, the train plunges down the drop as gravity takes control. Momentum generated by the drop propels the coaster through loops and turns and back to the passenger platform.

COASTER MODEL SPECIFICATIONS

- Due to limited display space, please limit model base and dimensions to a **total of 9 square feet**. Rectangular coaster bases are OK. Please, be sure of the length of the base and the dimensions are within the correct measurements.
- The name of the coaster should be clearly visible on model.
- Teams will consist of no more than 6 members with only one entry per team.
- Schools / classes may submit more than one model.
- An index card with the school's name, teachers' name, grade level and team members name **must be displayed with the model**.

SUGGESTED BUILDING MATERIALS

- Primary construction material should be wood, (popsicle sticks, balsa wood), etc.
- String, twine, wire, plastic straws, toothpicks, wood shavings, dowels, cardboard, construction paper
- Wood glue / hot glue gun (make sure it is heat resistant)
- PVC piping or rubber tubing
- Marbles, metal cars, etc.
- You may use battery operation (non automotive) or portable current operation.

Power- hook up is not available.

Pre-packaged electrical coasters (Lego models) are not permitted. The coaster must be constructed entirely from scratch.

Encourage your students to let their imagination "run wild" as they create loops, turns and lifts as well as a theme for their coaster using simple principles of gravity and engineering concepts!

JUDGING CRITERIA

All models will be judged on the following criteria for awarding of the "Grand Champion Coaster" prize:

1. Dynamics of the coaster: "G" forces, etc. (Will it function as a coaster?)
2. Creativity
3. Use of materials
4. Name of the coaster / theme

CONTEST JUDGES.....The panel will consist of members of the Carowinds Rides Maintenance Department. Please be sure to have a **representative available** at that time for demonstrations. Exact times will be given to you on the day of your event. We will announce our winners on stage at **1:00pm**.

- All coasters must be removed and returned to buses as soon as the judging is over. Carowinds is not responsible for any coasters left after the contest is over.

ROLLER COASTERS ...believed by many theme park enthusiasts to be the highlight of their visit! Why not take this opportunity to experience first hand the thrill of not only riding a coaster, but also designing and constructing what may become the next "world-class" thrill ride!