

National Middle School Science Bowl

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The National Middle School Science Bowl is an annual competition sponsored by the U.S. Department of Energy. The Science Bowl consists of two types of competitions -- an academic math and science competition and a model hydrogen fuel cell car race. The academic competition is a fast-paced, question-and-answer contest testing students' knowledge of earth science, physical science, life science, math and general science. The model hydrogen fuel cell car competition challenges students to design, build and race model cars.

The Science Bowl is open to students in grades 6 to 8 from any public, private, or home school who are welcome to form a team and participate in a regional Science Bowl. The regional winning team from each participating site is invited to compete for the National Title.

In 2007, a team from the Challenger School in Sunnyvale won the regional title to advance to the national finals, which were held June 21-24 in Denver, Colorado, at the U.S. Department of Energy's National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL). The team, coached by Sunil Bopardikar, finished in 7th place nationwide.

Congresswoman Anna G. Eshoo met to congratulate the team and its coach on September 14, 2007. The team consists of (left to right): Ankit Aggarwal (8th Grade); Sunil Bopardikar (Coach); Rohan Bopardikar (8th Grade); Ankur Das (8th Grade); and Debnil Sur (7th Grade).