

Judging at Elementary Science Olympiad
-hosted by Pasadena Unified School District's after-school LEARNS
program
Blair Middle School
Grades 2 - 6
Karen Jain
Apr 25, 2013

Renata Cummins and Babak Hassanzadeh

Renata:

It was super fun. I judged the grab-a-gram, where students had to estimate the mass of different items and bags of salt, cheerios, etc. This seemed a little silly to me, and most of the guesses were way off. Then I judged the competition where teams built bridges out of spaghetti and clay. I was pretty impressed with some of the bridges, they were able to hold a lot of weight! The event was very well organized, and it seemed like the students were having fun, except for the ones who had to work alone, because no one else from their school showed up.

It was a good idea to have three or four people supervising the grab-a-gram activity, because some stations would run out of material to fill up the ziploc bags, and each filled ziploc bag needed to be collected every time the groups switched stations. It was also a very good idea to keep coaches and parents out of the room while the students were working on the competition, because the presence of the parents would put more pressure on the students, and the parents might also try to give advice, which is not allowed.

Babak: judged the three-story egg-drop event