

- **Independent Day School-Corbett Campus Annual Eighth Grade Egg Drop**
- Wednesday, May 18
- 8 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.
- Raymond James Stadium
- Video/Photo opportunities: Students drop unusual and creative structures containing two raw eggs from the top of Raymond James; structures are designed to prevent breakage; many structures are successful and others result in broken eggs.
- Interview opportunities: Students can comment on how/why they created their structures and teachers on scientific principles/lessons.
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## Ingenuity and Paper Plates “Eggs-plain” Scientific Principles

**May 5, 2011 (TAMPA, Fla.)** – *What are the consequences of our creations?*

*What effect do air friction, gravity and terminal velocity have on falling objects?*

*Does an inexpensive paper plate create sufficient air friction to protect a falling object?*

*What kind of a shock absorber is Styrofoam? How is the rate of descent affected by different types of materials?*

Each year, middle school students at Independent Day School-Corbett Campus ponder these types of issues as they save and recycle everything from rubber bands and drinking straws to craft sticks and chicken wire. It’s all part of an IDS tradition: the middle school International Baccalaureate (IB) unit on creativity and physics, more commonly referred to as the egg drop.

The egg drop is a two-year lesson that helps students develop an understanding of how and why people create. While specific rules vary with each grade, the objective is always the same: to design a structure to protect one or two raw, untampered-with eggs from breaking or cracking as it is dropped from the top ramp at Tampa’s Raymond James Stadium – 95 feet above the concrete pavement. All containers must pass through a 30-centimeter circle in all directions and include a structure to hold the eggs. Only padding can touch the inside walls of the container, and the eggs must be held in structures that do not touch the inside walls.

In seventh grade, the egg drop project incorporates only one egg and provides students with the opportunity to investigate how science is used to keep people and items safe.

By eighth grade, students are ready to explore the consequences of man’s creations as they use the egg drop activity to consider both the positive and negative impact of creations such as cars and DDT.

“Students learn by doing their own project and also from each other as they compare containers and share results,” said science teacher Gery Morey. For example, before building their own containers, students collaborate with classmates, sharing ideas and respecting each other’s views, in an effort to help everyone come up with a successful egg drop container design.

As for those eggs that suffer cracks and breaks after their fall? Well, even Thomas Edison had to try more than 10,000 different experiments before he finally demonstrated the first incandescent light bulb.

“It all relates back to how and why people create,” said Morey.

*Founded in 1968, Independent Day School-Corbett Campus is a fully accredited, nonsectarian private school located on Orange Grove Drive in northwest Hillsborough County with over 500 students from PreK3 through 8th grade. At IDS, all children experience the International Baccalaureate Programme in a highly academic and nurturing environment focused on excellence and excitement in learning. IDS-CC has become recognized as an exemplary school with over 6,500 visitors observing and learning from IDS-CC teachers. For more information, visit [www.idsyees.com](http://www.idsyees.com) or contact the Admissions Office at 813-961-3087 for a personal tour.*