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Carlisle Kids Win a Tournament of Knowledge

Carlisle Students Triumph over Other Towns and Claim Trophy

CARLISLE, MA — May 24, 2012 — In April, educational video game company JogNog.com held the second monthly competition between middle school students to see who could answer the most questions on a topic correctly in a “city of knowledge” called JogNog MasterMind.

In March, Concord and Lynnfield were the only two schools in the competition, but the contest opened to all entrants in the month of April. That month, JogNog MasterMind coordinated with the American Science Challenge, a Massachusetts-wide initiative to improve middle school students’ performance on the Science MCAS. Accordingly, the theme for JogNog MasterMind in April was “Mad Scientist Month,” and the content consisted of questions geared specifically toward material tested on the 8th-grade MCAS test. Representatives from six schools participated, including students in Concord, Lynnfield, Douglas, and Carlisle. Each school was free to have as many students as they wished on each team. While each team performed well, Carlisle’s strength was overwhelming.

Led by science teacher Dr. Kathy Marsh, nineteen students from Carlisle Middle School joined JogNog MasterMind, outnumbering the participants from any other school. Carlisle’s strength was not just in sheer numbers, however. Each individual performed well, and students from Carlisle secured four of the top 7 individual performance prizes, including first and second place. In total, Carlisle students answered 11,006 questions in April, making them the JogNog MasterMind Champions for the month and winning that month’s trophy for their school.

“There is a widespread assumption that middle-school aged children aren’t interested in education,” says Joshua Savage, the director of MasterMind at JogNog. “This competition allows young people to demonstrate that the assumption simply isn’t true. The students from Carlisle and the other towns have shown that they don’t just care about education—they are eager for opportunities to learn. I am excited to see what they accomplish in May’s competition.”

The Carlisle award ceremony took place Thursday, May 24, at Carlisle Middle School. JogNog MasterMind competitions are available for schools to challenge each other every month at www.JogNog.com.

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