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6 students advance to Odyssey finals

Six local Harmony Science Academy students will be taking their problem-solving skills to the Odyssey of the Mind world finals in May after winning a problem-solving competition in a statewide competition.

The students were asked to solve a complex problem on a budget.

Team members created a lifelike monkey that moves and eats and learns behavior in a humorous eight-minute performance. Their presentation won first place in their division at the state competition last month.

Fifth-grader Bryce Stammler, sixth-graders Savannah Barrera and Mary Kate Walker, seventh-graders Lauren Matthews and Shankar Srinivasan and eighth-grader Matt Walker will compete against 800 teams at the world finals in Iowa in May.

The team must raise \$7,000 to travel to Iowa, team sponsor Tom Walker said. A fundraiser is set for 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. April 20 and 21 at Chili's in College Station.

Chili's will donate 10 percent of sales from patrons who download a coupon from www.hsabcs.org and present it when paying their bill at the restaurant.

To find out more about the competition or fundraising activities, e-mail Walker at walker7578@yahoo.com.