

Going on a treasure hunt not only allows children to exercise their sense of discovery and adventure, it also allows teamwork and communication skills to develop whilst they engage with their surroundings. This can be done as a team or individually.

Group activity

Instructions

1. Map out a route for the hunt to take place.
2. Write a set of questions or clues that relate to the area they are in and hint to where the next clue might be. These could be linked to the larger topic that is being discussed.*
3. Make it a challenge. Change where the clues or questions might be, this could be behind things or at different levels so different members of the group are able to find them.
4. If there is a large distance between clues or they are in a particularly tough place use arrows made of sticks, stones or drawn on the ground to point the group in the correct direction.
5. Make sure the trail leads to a prize at the end of hunt that the whole group can enjoy.

Resources

- Clues and something to attach them to points along the trail
- Small treats
- A larger prize at the end

*Top Tip

- Laminate the clues and make a map so the hunt can be repeated in the future
- Hide small rewards along the trail to entice less enthusiastic members of the group to the end

Important

- Make sure that the group works together to solve the clues, not only a few of the more confident individuals.
- Please leave the area where you are having your hunt in the same condition that it was found, if not better, and remove all clues when you leave.

Individual activity

Instructions

1. Give each member of the group, or each pair, a small box.
2. Take the group for a walk and at intervals along the trail ask them to find an item and then place it in their box. This could be a specific item, or a category of items (E.g. an item that something can live in, something yellow, something with a smooth texture).
3. Carry on until the end of the trail, or when the boxes are filled.

4. At the end on the hunt, have each member of the group take everything they have found out of their box and discuss why they picked what they did and why people have different things, despite having the same instructions.

Resources

- A small box per person or pair (E.g. a match box or small plastic container)