

Treasure Hunt

Seasonally known as: “Rainbow Treasure Hunt”, “Hunting for Hearts”, “Search for Baby New Year”, “Easter Egg Hunt”, “The Great Pumpkin Hunt”, “Turkey Hunt”, “The Search for Jesus”, “Hunting for Flags”, or “Search for the birthday crown”.

For children of all ages who are at least somewhat mobile.

Materials Needed:

1. The Treasure
 - a. Either one big treasure for all to hunt or at least one treasure per player.
2. The reason for the hunt
 - a. Seasonally appropriate of course
3. Lots of room!

Directions:

Step one is to determine which type of game you want to play. This game has many variations; I don't have the drive space to list them all! The two most common types are the twenty questions style, and the free-for-all search.

Twenty Questions Style Hunt

This style works best with only one treasure like the baby new year, or the “search for the birthday crown”. It is also easier to play with older children who can remember what they've learned from asking questions. It is a more quiet game than the free-for-all, best reserved for days when you have a headache!

1. Hide the treasure when the players can't see.
2. Explain the reason for the hunt, (ex. find baby new year so last year can retire)
3. Allow the children, one at a time, to ask a question about the treasure and where it might be hidden.
 - a. Younger children might need to be able to ask open ended questions
 - b. Older kids can be restricted to traditional yes or no questions.
 - c. For an even more challenging game give one or two clues or harder still riddle clues.
4. Allow the children when they think they know where the treasure is to go get it. Again one at a time.
5. You can continue the game by allowing the ‘winner’ to hide the treasure and begin again.

Free-For-All Hunt

This is the traditional Easter egg hunt, but don't feel restricted to only using it at Easter! For St. Patrick's Day try hiding those little bags of chocolate coins attached to rainbows or shamrocks. At Halloween you could try little baby gourds that become instant party favors (in need of decorating of course!) This game hardly needs directions but we'll give them anyway.

1. Hide the treasures, the more treasure the more fun!

2. Set the kids free to roam and search! If you have too many kids for the space then send them out in groups divided by age or height or whatever you need.
3. Gather the kids in the end and check out the treasures. If you have put something in the 'eggs' then you'll want to let them open them where everyone can ooo and ahh. If you feel like it you could award separate prizes based on the child with most, least, biggest, smallest, etc.