



Everyday Engineering

Make a Map for a Treasure Hunt

Maps give us information about a place and help us find our way from one location to another. This activity involves making a simple map of a room and using it to find small treasures.

What you need:

- Paper
- Scissors
- Something to write with
- Tape (optional)
- "Treasure" to hide (like a small toy)

Prep:

1. Pick a room where you live. On one piece of paper, draw the walls of the room, leaving space for any doors.
2. Using other pieces of paper, cut out simple shapes like squares and circles to represent any large furniture, rugs, or other permanent items in the room.

What you do:

1. First, fill up the map with the shapes for the different furniture and other items. The pieces can be attached with tape or simply placed on your paper map. You can label these pieces with the name of the object or a little picture to help remember what they represent.
2. Once the map is assembled you can use it for treasure hunts! Take turns hiding a small object in the room. Then use the map to give hints about where you hid the object.



Some helpful words and phrases to use when describing the room are: near, far, next to, and between. Depending on the age of your child, you can also practice directional terms like "right" and "left."