



Forest Treasure Hunt

Remember the treasure's key features, then search for it outdoors.

Helps Your Child Grow



Cognitive Self-Regulation (Executive Functioning)

Studying and remembering a treasure's key features helps your child hold information in mind and use it to complete an outdoor search.



Relationships with Adults

Searching and comparing finds with you gives your child practice cooperating on a small shared mission.

Steps

- On a pleasant day, take a small Rabbit, a basket, and three treasure pictures on a nature walk - for example, a leaf, flower, and stone.
- Choose pictures with memorable features, such as a jagged-edged leaf, yellow flower, and round stone.
- Pretend Rabbit lost the three treasures. Before each search, let your child study one picture and remember what to find.
- Draw attention to the strongest clue, such as the shape of the leaf's edge.
- If the detail is forgotten during the search, ask, "What did the edge of that leaf look like?"
- When your child finds a possible match, compare it with the picture and celebrate a successful find.

Tips

- Sometimes choose an object that is similar but not an exact match and invite your child to explain the difference.
- Join the search as an interested partner: notice discoveries, respond to ideas, and keep the mission moving together.
- Before each search, ask, "What kind of treasure are we looking for?" Saying the clue aloud can help your child keep it in mind.

Observations

- Remembers the features along the leaf's edge and finds the matching leaf
- Joins you in the small task after hearing your description