

## Learning Experience

### Treasure Hunt

#### Educational Purpose - Why is this important for children's learning?

Searching for specific items in an environment encourages children's comprehension and concentration skills, as well as offering some suspense and surprise. It can be quite an abstract concept for children to look for items that they are required to picture in their minds, so this encourages children to recall what they know, classify, hypothesise and identify specific items in their environment.

#### Resources needed

Any place - indoors or out

A list of items written about the place that you are in and it could be descriptive or specific such as:

- Something blue (or red/yellow/green)
- A smooth leaf
- A puddle
- Something round (or square/triangular)
- A dead leaf
- A flower
- Something that makes sound
- A stick with a fork
- Something broken
- A rough rock

#### Description of what to do including prompts for questions to ask children

1. Prepare a list of items that are relevant to the space that you play this game. Decide if you want your child to collect the items or just view them and tick them off on the list.
2. Advise your child of the purpose of the game and ask them clearly to locate each of the items. Add descriptive words or definitions, if required, e.g. if they need support to understand a concept, give them a short explanation or give simple clues.
3. Allow your child to tick off the items or, if collecting, to place them into a basket or container.

#### Possible extension

Allow your child to photograph the items found or to draw each item found, if not being collected. Reflect on and revisit the photos taken and use the same descriptive words to reinforce your child's understanding and memory.

Encourage your child to create their own checklist for you to then find in your environment. Children love to take the leader or adult role!