Puzzle Hunters - Scouts, Ventuers, and Rovers

Sections

Joey Scouts
Cub Scouts
Scouts
Venturer Scouts
Rover Scouts

Scouts VICTORIA

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Challenge Areas

COMMUNITY
CREATIVE
OUTDOOR
PERSONAL GROWTH

Scout Method Elements

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT
LEARNING BY DOING
NATURE AND THE OUTDOORS
PROMISE AND LAW
PERSONAL PROGRESSION
PATROL SYSTEM
SYMBOLIC FRAMEWORK
YOUTH LEADING, ADULTS SUPPORTING

SPICES Growth Areas

CHARACTER
EMOTIONAL
INTELLECTUAL
PHYSICAL
SOCIAL
SPIRITUAL

The Adventure

Use radios and teamwork to find puzzle pieces in a field and put together the puzzle.

Plan

1. Investigate different ways in which humans communicate with each other. Consider how the senses of touch, sight, and sound all factor into how we communicate with other people.
2. Investigate the basics of how radios work. You might like to look here to get started: https://electronics.howstuffworks.com/radio.htm
3. Consider ways that you can ‘blind’ your navigator from the field. This may be by using a blindfold or by placing a solid object such as a tarp or wall between the navigator and the field.
4. Discuss north, south, east, west and which direction they are relative to where you will be performing the activity.
5. Read the safety information and discuss with your leaders or another appropriate adult what safety equipment, precautions, and supervision may be required. Ensure that you have these safety measures in place before starting the ‘Do’ section.
6. Communicate with your patrol members and leaders to see what equipment that you need to bring. You will need a puzzle field, puzzle pieces, two handheld radios per pair, barriers or blindfolds to prevent the navigator from seeing the collector, and course instructions.

Do

1. Set up your field, which should contain a range of different locations for puzzle pieces to be placed. For an added challenge, try to ensure that there are more locations than pieces for each puzzle. If you are running multiple pairs and puzzles, you may like to set up your field using a grid of posts. Alternatively, for an indoor experience, you could get up your field in a living room with furniture.
2. Make sure that your field has a grid. This is important so that the navigator can provide instructions without being able to see the collector.
3. Have someone else design a path through the grid for the puzzle pieces to be located along, and then have them place the puzzle pieces in the field. Each collection location should have puzzle pieces at them to ensure that the correct pieces are collect through radio communication rather than just going to the locations with pieces. Provide the navigator with written or drawn instructions on the puzzle course. Make sure that the collector does not see this course.
4. With the navigator and the collector both having handheld radios, send the collector into the field.
5. Have the navigator direct the collector along the path to collect the puzzle pieces before returning to the start. The navigator should use direct the collector using the grid and instructions such as ‘Go two grids north’.
6. Put the puzzle together.

Review

1. Did you manage to find all of your puzzle pieces correctly and could you complete your puzzle?
2. Was it easy to hear the instructions from your teammate over the radio?
3. What was challenging about the experience?
4. If you were to do this activity again, what would you do the same? What would you do differently?

Safety

• The radios may recieve and transmit signals to other devices. Ensure that transmission does not interfere with other services and it is highly recommended that 'kid safe' mode is enabled to minimise the risk of non-Scouting members from talking to youth members.

Variations

• Consider other objects that can be collected from the field. You could collect ingredients then cook something.
• Have a range of pairs and puzzles on the field at once to increase the difficulty.
• This activity can be easily themed by creating puzzle pieces with different pictures on paper.