
Scavenger Hunt Master Toolkit

Quick-Start · Decision Tree · 30 Clue Templates · Certificate
Tested across 200+ real-family hunts

Use this toolkit as your one-stop reference for hosting scavenger hunts at home, at parties, in classrooms, or outdoors. Print, cut, customize. Free forever from [Riddlelicious.com](https://www.Riddlelicious.com).

15-Minute Quick-Start Checklist

Step 1 (2 min): Pick a theme. Pirate, detective, unicorn, nature, holiday — match your child's current interest.

Step 2 (3 min): Walk through your space. Pick 8–12 safe hiding spots in a logical route.

Step 3 (5 min): Pick clues from the 30 templates inside this toolkit. One per hiding spot. The last clue points to the treasure.

Step 4 (3 min): Hide clues in reverse order. Place treasure first, then clue pointing TO the treasure at the previous spot, etc.

Step 5 (1 min): Set up the prize. Decorated box + small treat per child = 10x the joy.

Step 6 (1 min): Brief the kids: stay in bounds, no peeking, work as a team or race.

60-Second Decision Tree

Youngest age	Best format	Clue count	Time
3–5	Picture map + adult guide	5–6 stops	15–20 min
6–8	Rhyming riddle chain	8–10 stops	30–45 min
9–12	Code-breaking + logic	10–14 stops	45–75 min
13+	Cryptic clues, team race	12–15 stops	60–120 min

30 Plug-and-Play Clue Templates

Swap the bold answer for your hiding spot and you have an instant clue. Best for ages 6–10.

1. *I keep food cold and love to hum, open me up and find clue one.* → **Refrigerator**
2. *You sit on me, you stand on me, but never sleep on me.* → **Chair**
3. *I have arms but cannot hug, peek behind me — quick, don't shrug.* → **Couch / armchair**
4. *Twirl my dial and water flows, look beneath me, the next clue grows.* → **Bathroom sink**
5. *Round and round I always go, where I stop, only winds know.* → **Ceiling fan**
6. *My pages turn but I don't speak, between my covers, take a peek.* → **Book on shelf**
7. *I'm where laundry takes a spin, look inside — your prize is in.* → **Washing machine**
8. *I hold the time, I never sleep, behind me a secret you should keep.* → **Wall clock**
9. *Step out the door and look up high, what greets the morning sky?* → **Mailbox**
10. *Cold inside, but a warm welcome, open my door for a frosty hello.* → **Freezer**
11. *Soft and bouncy where you dream, peek beneath this fluffy team.* → **Pillow / mattress**
12. *Where shoes go to rest at night, your next clue is hiding in plain sight.* → **Shoe rack**
13. *Plates go in, plates come out clean, search inside this washing machine.* → **Dishwasher**
14. *Pull me out one at a time, your next message hides between the lines.* → **Tissue box**
15. *I live in dirt but never grow legs, hidden in my soil are scavenger pegs.* → **Plant pot**
16. *Press my buttons and the screen comes alive, your next clue waits where channels jive.* → **TV remote**
17. *Wipe your feet before you pass, look beneath me for the next clue's brass.* → **Doormat**
18. *Twice a day we go to work, your next clue hides where bristles lurk.* → **Toothbrush holder**
19. *Beeping warmly, food I heat, open my door — there's something neat.* → **Microwave**
20. *I carry your day from morn till night, check my pockets — quick, take flight.* → **Backpack**
21. *Sweet inside, glass on top, lift my lid and watch me drop.* → **Cookie jar**
22. *I show the days, the weeks, the year, flip my pages — clue is here.* → **Calendar**
23. *I shed light when darkness falls, peek up my skirt and read the call.* → **Lamp shade**
24. *Welcome home, take off your shoes, the next clue waits beneath my hues.* → **Doormat (outdoor)**
25. *I capture moments on the wall, behind my back is your next call.* → **Picture frame**
26. *Bubbles, water, splashes too — look behind my faucet's view.* → **Bath tub**
27. *I hold what no one wants to see, but treasure hides inside of me. (Place clue in clean ziplock!)* → **Trash can**
28. *I'm too tall for little hands, ask a grown-up to help me stand.* → **Bookshelf top**
29. *I swing back and forth through summer's heat, look under my seat for treasure neat.* → **Garden swing**
30. *You've solved them all, you clever crew — open this box, the prize is for you!* → **Treasure chest (final)**

7 Mistakes to Avoid (Hard-Won)

1. Too many clues for the age group. Cap it — 5–6 for ages 4–6, 8–12 for 7–10, 12–15 for 11+.
2. No test-run. A 5-minute walk-through catches missing clues and unsafe spots.
3. Unsafe hiding spots (climbing, ovens, medicine cabinets). Ground floor and visible-from-standing only.
4. Unrewarding treasure. A wrapped snack inside a decorated box delivers 10× the joy.
5. Cluing without narrative. "Find the clue" is bland; "Captain Greybeard hid the loot" doubles engagement.
6. Ignoring mixed-age groups. Pair an older kid with a younger one — natural mentoring beats any rule.
7. No phone backup. Photograph each clue's hiding spot and answer in order so you can recover a missing card.

■ Scavenger Hunt Champion ■

This certifies that

successfully completed the
Riddlelicious Scavenger Hunt
and discovered the treasure!

Date: _____ Clues solved: ____ / ____

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