

Neighborhood Treasure Map

Make a treasure map of your neighborhood that features your favorite special places.

Treasure maps are commonly found in stories and movies. Are they fact or fiction? Either way, they are fun examples of how maps can highlight what we value and lead to adventure!

Materials

White paper
Markers and crayons
Ink pens
Brewed coffee or tea
Tray



Instructions

1. Rip the edges of the paper by hand.
2. Ball up the paper to create creases, and then flatten it out.
3. Place the map in a baking tray and cover it with cold, brewed coffee or black tea.
4. Allow the map to “age” in the coffee or tea for 20 minutes to 1 hour. If using tea, the longer it steeps the better!
5. Pour the tea or coffee out of the tray, and allow the map to dry completely.
6. Use pens or markers to mark or illustrate special places in your area.
7. Draw your pathways and obstacles, and try giving clues instead of street names.
8. Add a title, symbols, legend, or direction notes, if desired.

Go Further

Give your map to a friend or family member. Can they find the special places?

Want to keep the adventure going? Hide an item in your house and make a treasure map that leads to it!

Share your treasure map! Tag us on Instagram [@bcmkids](#) [#bcmandyou](#)

