

ACTIVITY

A PROGRAM BY THE NATIONAL MILITARY FAMILY ASSOCIATION

Operation Purple Healing Adventures®

AT HOME

This program is powered by Wounded Warrior Project® to honor and empower post-9/11 injured service members, veterans, and their families.

SCAVENGER HUNTS

Time: 45 minutes | Participants: Minimum of 2, 3 years old and up

Learn about how your family works as a team by working to complete a fun scavenger hunt in your neighborhood!

FAMILY MISSION VALUES

Communication and Teamwork

WHAT YOU'LL NEED

- Markers or stickers to mark bingo squares
- Camera, tablet, or phone to take pictures

BEFORE YOU START

- There are two scavenger hunts to choose from: One is a photo scavenger hunt for the whole family, and the other is a bingo scavenger hunt for younger children.
- Families can divide into teams for a timed competition, or complete the hunt together.
- Items that highlight a particular family member must be confirmed as correct by that family member. Answers cannot be changed once they are given!

INSTRUCTIONS: PHOTO SCAVENGER HUNT (AGE 5 AND UP)

1. **Prepare**

Print out the scavenger hunt checklist (page 3) and divide into teams. Choose a family team lead who promises to be impartial and fair. This person will have the final say if there is a question about whether or not an item is complete.

2. **Set expectations**

The family team lead identifies a rally point for all teams to report to at a specified time and communicates this to all team members.

3. Start the hunt!

For each item on the list, the team must take one original photo. The photo must be taken by a team member during the scavenger hunt. For those items requiring solving a riddle, make sure to take a picture of the answer to the riddle in order to be able to count the item as complete. Example: I provide a home for sharks. The answer is the ocean, so team members would take a picture of the ocean. Creative team members might say aquarium, which is also a correct answer if the family team lead accepts it.

4. Rally!

Report back to the rally point at the specified time. Give your checklist and pictures to the family team lead, who will decide the winner!

Mission Accomplished!

WRAP UP

Get together with the rest of your family and talk about the scavenger hunt using the questions below. Take turns asking and answering the questions and listen to each person's response.

- What did you learn about your family members today?
- How was each family member able to contribute? Were there any surprises?
- Did the team split up or stay together? How did that strategy help or hurt the team?
- Did anyone disagree? How did the team work it out?

INSTRUCTIONS: BINGO SCAVENGER HUNT (AGES 3-5)

This activity encourages young children to participate at a level that is developmentally appropriate for them. An older sibling or parent can help them. Fill in one column for bingo, or go for the gold and fill the whole card!

1. Prepare to explore!

Print out the bingo card (page 4), and explain the activity to your little buddy before heading out the door.

2. It's time to hunt!

Look for the items in each square on the card. With each item found, celebrate the accomplishment and use a marker or stickers to mark the completed square. Remember to mark the free space!

3. Celebrate!

When all the items are found for BINGO, or your little buddy tires out, it's time to head home for a nice break. Go over the discussion questions with them and make sure to praise their accomplishments!

SIBLING TIP: If working with a younger child, remember that attention spans are very short! If they do not understand the game of bingo and would like to find random items on the card, that's okay! The goal is for them to be aware of their surroundings and work with you to be successful. Go with the flow!

Mission Accomplished!

WRAP UP

- Encourage the child to draw a picture of something they touched with their fingers, saw with their eyes, or felt with their heart on the scavenger hunt
- Allow the child to put the completed bingo card on the refrigerator or wall to celebrate
- If your military member is deployed or away from home, send a picture of the child with their completed card
- Try the following discussion questions:
 - a. What did you like about the scavenger hunt?
 - b. Did you get all the items on your card, or did you get a BINGO?
 - c. Who helped you? How did you work together?
 - d. What were you able to do by yourself?

PHOTO SCAVENGER HUNT

Team Name:.....

Time Limit:..... **Total Items Found:**.....

- Act out your mom's favorite sport in an action photo
- Do you know your parents' birthday? Find a house, mailbox, or apartment number containing the calendar day of their birthday
- Find an item on a front porch or lawn that is your oldest sibling's favorite color
- A hero
- I bring you beauty in the spring, relief in the summer, and work in the fall
- Team selfie (ALL team members must be in the photo)
- I might sit in a yard or hang out on the porch. You make me sway as you relax the day away
- Entire team upside down
- An item that reminds you of your youngest sibling's favorite show or movie
- I cut what is green. My sound wakes you when you sleep late. Others may pay you to use me
- An unusual mailbox
- To reach my top, you must start below. Let's hope you don't huff and puff as you go! Step by step you'll reach your goal
- Sometimes I'm a blur. Sometimes I go slow. Watch out for me when you cross the road!
- A happy pet
- Pose with a statue or lawn ornament (Ask permission if it belongs to someone else!)
- Your dad's favorite activity
- One if by land, two if by sea. If you're bright on history, you'll take a photo of me
- Something your military mom or dad does at work every day
- The oldest child's favorite food

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Clue Answers: 1-Tree; 2-Porch swing/yard swing; 3-Lawnmower; 4-Stairs; 5-Car; 6-Lantern
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SCAVENGER HUNT BINGO

Name:

B	I	N	G	O
Tree	Yellow house	Something that starts with the letter S	Stop sign	Something purple
Something that starts with the letter M	Bird	Butterfly	Red front door	Spider web
Something green	Big stick or tree branch	FREE SPACE	Smooth rock	Beautiful flower
Swing	Bird house	Leaf that is not green	Bird's nest	Long sidewalk
Pine cone	Ant	Earthworm	Acorn	Something that starts with the letter T