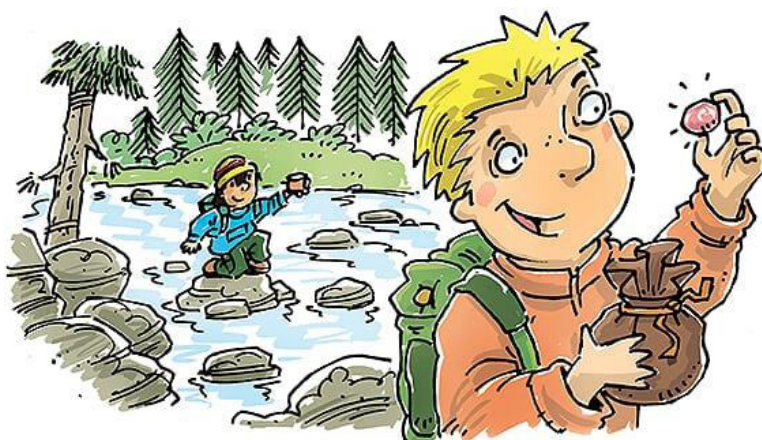


Eggstravaganza!

This resource aims to help you organise exciting Easter-themed egg hunt activities for your Colony.

Easter eggs hunts come in many varieties. Here we explore different types you may choose from.



Treasure Hunt

A treasure hunt is an activity that gives a small group of Beaver Scouts clues to progress to a further step, eventually leading the Lodge to the 'treasure' - perhaps a pile of Easter eggs!

Clues can be written on strips of paper and hidden in plastic eggs at each given point.

It is a good idea to hold a treasure hunt in a relatively small place both for monitoring the Beaver Scouts' progress... and for remembering where the Scouters actually hid them!

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Treasure Hunt

Take a look around your meeting place/ place where you are having the treasure hunt and look for stand-out features such as a blossom tree, an interesting monument, a row of flowers, a sign, etc. List all these items down first and then try to think of clever clues as to how to describe these features.

A good idea is to have a few written copies of each hiding place and the clue that will bring the Beaver Scouts to the next hiding place. This will make setting out the hunt simple for the organisers, and allow other Scouters to help when Beaver Scouts get 'stuck'.

If you are feeling creative, clues can be written in rhyming couplets... from the perspective of the egg! Remember to keep it simple enough that the Beaver Scouts can work together themselves to figure out the clues.

Here is a simple example of a rhyming clue:

*I sit and wait for you patiently,
With yellow heads all around me*

(Answer: The egg is hidden near the daffodils.)

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Scavenger Hunt



The terms 'treasure hunt' and 'scavenger hunt' are sometimes used interchangeably, but there is actually quite a difference!

A scavenger hunt requires the Beaver Scouts to find or take a number of items given to them on a list. This list can be composed of items (pine cone, red leaf, blue flower, etc.) and/ or places (a noisy place, a place where you would find food, etc.).

If you decide on using places, you could leave an egg at each location and in order to get their prize, Beaver Scouts must have collected all ten eggs. Ensure you are specific, however, as Beaver Scouts may interpret 'a place where you find food' as a fridge, a lunchbox or a shop!

As another way of 'qualifying' for treasure, the Beaver Scouts can either present their items or take pictures beside required items. Old working digital cameras can be given to each Lodge in order for photographs of items or places to be taken as proof. This is an environmentally friendly way of running this type of hunt- Beaver Scouts will not be disturbing habitats or picking flowers unnecessarily, etc.

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Orienteering Course

Many local councils around Ireland, in conjunction with organisations like Ordnance Survey Ireland, have introduced orienteering courses in parks and fields. These are plotted out courses that contain poles with letters and numbers. Maps are provided online for you to download.

Sometimes parks even have courses with varying degrees of difficulties that you can choose from. Check your council's parks website online to see if there are any orienteering courses near you.

Ensure that Beaver Scouts complete the orienteering course/ egg hunt in Lodges with Scouter accompaniment as the small group system will allow each Beaver Scout the opportunity to interpret the map. Start each Lodge at a different starting pole- it doesn't matter where you begin as long as you get to all the points at some course!

Combining an egg hunt with an orienteering course is a great way of combining skill development and Easter fun for your Beaver Scout Colony!

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Taskmaster

This simple variant sees each Lodge given a simple map of where each egg is hidden in the given area. The Beaver Scouts' task is to find each egg. Inside each one is a different fun task- the Beaver Scouts must run back to the Scouter and complete the given task. After finding all eggs and completing each task, the Beaver Scouts are given their reward! Example of tasks include 'sing Baby Shark', 'tell a joke', 'say your favourite things about Beaver Scouts' and 'do a funny dance'.



Relay

This activity is best done in a small field with plenty of hiding spaces. Beaver Scouts are lined up in Lodges and in turn, they run around and look for one hidden egg in their Lodge's given colour!

You may choose to combine this activity with the premise of 'Taskmaster' and have each egg contain a task for the Lodge to do while they wait their turn in running and searching.

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In The Dark!

If you are doing an overnight event, this may be a nice activity to do just before bedtime. Hide a number of eggs in a small field (without too many obstacles for Beaver Scouts to fall over!). Make sure you put reflective strips on the eggs or paint them with fluorescent or glow-in-the-dark paint. The Beaver Scouts should use their torches to pick up the reflective strips/ fluorescent paint and find the eggs!



Some General Tips

- Ensure Beaver Scouts are abiding by Leave No Trace by not disturbing flora or animal habitats during their egg hunt.
- Why not have the Conn Beaver Scouts write egg clues and assist Scouters in hiding them for the Bree and Ruarc Beaver Scouts?
- Consider how your Beaver Scouts receive their chocolate eggs at the end of the activity- discourage a wild scrum so that nobody is left without one!