childhood day mile © Friday 7 June

We're going on a bear hunt!

This is a fun activity which introduces children to measuring a mile. It can take place indoors or outdoors.

Introduce children to the bear hunt story. Nursery age children can be read the book by Michael Rosen. Older children will probably know the story.

How to go on a bear hunt

- 1 Identify the playing area. If outside, define the boundaries within which players need to stay. For inside play, specify any off-limit spaces. Provide a map showing boundaries and off-limit areas. If you have a large enough space with a mile perimeter, you can measure this out with the older children in advance or, for smaller perimeters, work out what fraction of a mile it is. (A mile is 5,280 feet).
- 2 Lay out your own series of obstacles that you can tie into the story.
- 3 Choose one player to be the bear, who goes and hides in the designated playing area. Perhaps make a bear mask out of a paper plate for the bear to wear. The children could also make binoculars out of kitchen roll inner tubes.
- 4 The rest of the children walk with exaggerated large steps calling out "We're going on a bear hunt" and other phrases from the book and song as they encounter the obstacles.

 Once the bear is found, whoever found them becomes the bear and it's their turn to hide.



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