



# Craft PROJECTS

## HERE ARE THE MUST-HAVE MATERIALS THAT NO CRAFTY KIDS SHOULD BE WITHOUT:

- Adhesive tape
- Copier and construction paper
- Crayons
- Glue sticks and craft glue
- Hole punch
- Kraft paper
- Paintbrushes
- Paints (finger paints and tempera paints)
- Pencils (both graphite and colored)
- Ruler
- Scissors
- Stapler

## FOR MORE ADVANCED CRAFTERS, GO BEYOND THE BASICS AND ADD SOME SPECIALTY SUPPLIES:

- Beads
- Craft foam and craft sticks
- Decorative paper punches
- Plasticine and polymer clay, for modeling
- Rubber stamps and stamp pads
- Specialty papers, such as origami and tissue paper
- Stencils



**Scavenger hunts** have always been popular activities for children. Not only are they simple, inexpensive and fun distractions, but they also encourage kids to interact with their environment and practice problem solving. Get them moving and thinking with these easy, creative scavenger hunt ideas.

### THE ALPHABET HUNT

Grab a sheet of paper and write down the alphabet. Challenge your kids to find objects around the house that start with each letter. They can either collect the items and put them in one spot or, if you'd rather not have a gigantic pile of 26 random objects on your floor, have them write down the object next to the letter.

### THE SENSORY HUNT

Encourage sensory exploration by creating a scavenger hunt where kids can touch, see, taste, hear and smell. Challenges can include finding items that feel soft, bumpy or squishy, or that make noise, smell nice, taste good, are heavy, are bright or can move.

### THE COLOR HUNT

Help your little ones learn their colors with this simple scavenger hunt. Take an array of markers and draw colorful boxes on a sheet of paper with the name of the color underneath. Then ask your kids to find an object to match each color. As an added challenge, use different shades of the same color and encourage your little ones to explore items with different hues.

### THE EXERCISE HUNT

This activity is a great way for your kids to have fun and get active. Write down eight to 10 different exercises on index cards, such as 10 jumping jacks, 15 seconds of jogging, five pushups or 30 seconds of dancing. Place the cards around the room where they can be easily seen. Dividing your children into teams, have them find the exercise cards in the order printed on a separate card and complete them. You can make this activity a competition to see who can complete all of their exercises first and offer a prize as an incentive.

### THE STATE HUNT

Break out the maps for this scavenger hunt. Create a list of geography-based questions about the 50 states and encourage your child to explore our nation. For example, ask kids to find a state that is next to the Pacific Ocean, a state surrounded by other states on all sides, a state that borders another country, a state that starts with a specific letter, a state next to one of the Great Lakes or a state made up of islands.

### THE GRATITUDE HUNT

On this hunt, children can find items to be grateful for and discover what makes them happy. Ask your kids to find items that they like to wear, enjoy playing with, are useful to them, are good for giving as gifts to someone else, make them laugh, reflect beauty or remind them of a place that they like to visit. ■

— Katie Beecher