This activity is designed to give you a sense of adventure. We will be creating a map, much like a treasure map for your fellow scouts and/or parents to follow. First, determine if this will be indoors or outdoors. Depending on your surroundings, you could do this in a classroom, a park, a house, a forest or just about anywhere you can imagine. Your surroundings will determine your map style so start with some bullet points of what you are planning to find.

Helpful hint: All smart phones come with a compass if you don’t have a handheld one.

Determine a starting point. Not all scouts have to start and end at the same spot. Everyone can make their own map with their own adventure. Next, determine an end point. Is it nearby? Is it far away? Is it the same as your starting point? Sometimes it’s fun to send your searchers off on an adventure only to bring them right back to where they started. Next, determine a couple points along the way for them to find. For instance, maybe you start at the door of a library and you have to walk around the lunch tables before heading to the drinking fountain. Grab your compass and count your steps to the end of the tables. Then you can write down “30 steps North” on your map with an arrow. Continue this over and over until your map is full and your searchers have an end point.

Optional: You can also include a scavenger hunt along the way. For instance, you can say “42 steps South to the jelly beans. Grab one of your favorite color.” Then your searcher has to bring the items they grabbed back to you when they finish. Another fun option for the scavenger style is to take pictures (and especially convenient if the girls are using a smart phone as a compass). You can say “12 steps to the East and take a photo of the wall” and then they will have a collection of photos at the end to show their journey.

A map should have around 8-12 steps although depending on your preferences and time, you can do more or less. Each scout can finish their map on paper and trade amongst the other girls or parents to discover their own adventure.

Discuss with each other the importance of direction and compasses. Have you ever used a compass camping or anywhere else? What about using directions in a car?

Just for fun- If you walk five steps to the east, and then five more to the east, and five more to the east, and you keep going, what happens?

Enjoy your adventure!

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