
Organiser's Guide

Treasure Hunt – Pirates

For Harry

Your guide: Captain Redbeard

Age: 7–9 years

Players: 5 children

Duration: 60–90 minutes

Steps: 10 (5 riddles + 5 challenges)

At a Glance

1. Read the welcome letter to the children and give them the first activity and the map board.
2. Each riddle they solve reveals the name of a hiding place. For the challenges, you tell them the hiding place once they have completed the challenge.
3. In each hiding place, the children find a map piece + the next activity: they glue the piece onto the map board.
4. In the last hiding place, they find the last map piece (the one with the treasure chest) + the map letter.
5. They put the map back together and work out where the treasure is.
6. They go to the place marked on the map and find the treasure, the congratulations letter and their certificates!

What You'll Need

- The printed game kit (it has everything: riddles, challenges, letters, treasure map and cut-outs)
- The treasure map, cut into 10 pieces along the dotted lines
- The map board, and some glue to stick the pieces on
- The challenge cards, cut out (see the 'Cut-outs' pages of the game kit)
- The treasure to hide (sweets, small toys, etc.)
- Everything you need for the 5 challenges (details in the 'Step-by-Step Guide' section)

Tips

- If the children get stuck on a riddle, give them a clue (for example: 'the answer starts with...')
- Encourage the children to search together and help each other
- Keep an eye on the time so you can adjust the pace
- For the challenges, tick the box on the challenge sheet when the children succeed

Getting Ready (at least 30 minutes before)

- ☐ Print the game kit (from the 'Game Kit' section onwards)
- ☐ Cut the treasure map along the dotted lines (10 pieces)
- ☐ Cut out the challenge cards ('Cut-outs' pages of the game kit)
- ☐ In each hiding place, hide a map piece + the next activity:
 - ☐ In the letterbox: map piece + Challenge 2
 - ☐ Kitchen: map piece + Riddle 3
 - ☐ Under the bed: map piece + Challenge 4
 - ☐ Living room: map piece + Riddle 5
 - ☐ In the fridge: map piece + Challenge 6
 - ☐ Under the cushion: map piece + Riddle 7
 - ☐ Bedroom: map piece + Challenge 8
 - ☐ Bathroom: map piece + Riddle 9
 - ☐ Study: map piece + Challenge 10
 - ☐ Hallway: map piece + map letter



The map piece with the treasure chest must be hidden in the last hiding place (Hallway).

- ☐ Put the treasure in the place marked on the map, together with the congratulations letter
- ☐ Get everything ready for the challenges (details in the 'Step-by-Step Guide' section)
- ☐ Keep the welcome letter + Riddle 1 to hand to start the hunt

Step-by-Step Guide

Welcome letter

Read the welcome letter to the children and give them the first riddle.

1. Riddle: Redbeard's Riddle

Answer: **IN THE LETTERBOX** (= the next hiding place)

 The children go to the hiding place '**In the letterbox**' and find Challenge 2 + a map piece

2. Challenge: The Rainbow Hunt

The grown-up calls out a colour, and each child brings back something in that colour.

What you'll need:

- A timer (optional, for the older ones)
- A play area with objects in lots of different colours

Getting ready:

1. Decide which rooms or areas are allowed for the search
2. Get a list of colours ready to call out (red, blue, green, yellow, orange, purple, white, black...)
3. Optional: set a time limit for each round (30 seconds to 1 minute) to make it more exciting

 Once they succeed, tell the children the name of the next hiding place: **Kitchen**

 The children go to the hiding place '**Kitchen**' and find Riddle 3 + a map piece

3. Riddle: Redbeard's Mystery Picture

Answer: **UNDER THE BED** (= the next hiding place)

 The children go to the hiding place '**Under the bed**' and find Challenge 4 + a map piece

4. Challenge: The Feely Bag

Guess the objects hidden in a bag just by feeling them, without looking.

What you'll need:

- A bag you can't see into (a cloth bag or a pillowcase)
- Objects to guess (as many as there are children playing)
- Optional: a blindfold, for even more mystery

Getting ready:

1. Choose objects that are easy to recognise by touch: nothing sharp or breakable
2. A few ideas: ball, spoon, toothbrush, soft toy, key, pine cone, sponge, comb
3. Put all the objects in the bag before the children arrive
4. Write down the objects so that you can check the answers

Examples and ideas:

Tennis ball, Wooden spoon, Toothbrush, Small soft toy, Key, Pine cone, Sponge, Comb, Cork, Clothes peg, Rubber, Toy figure, Seashell, Smooth pebble

 Once they succeed, tell the children the name of the next hiding place: **Living room**

! The children go to the hiding place '**Living room**' and find Riddle 5 + a map piece

5. Riddle: Redbeard's Hidden Initials

Answer: **IN THE FRIDGE** (= the next hiding place)

! The children go to the hiding place '**In the fridge**' and find Challenge 6 + a map piece

6. Challenge: Animal Charades

Act out an animal so that the others can guess it.

What you'll need:

- Slips of paper with animal names (included, ready to cut out)
- A hat or a bowl to pick from
- Optional: a timer (1 minute per turn)

Getting ready:

1. Cut out the slips with the animal names (see the printable sheet)
2. Fold the slips and put them in a hat or a bowl
3. Explain the rules well: no noises, no words
4. The children take turns

Words on the cut-out cards:

Cow, Koala, Pig, Penguin, Parrot, Giraffe, Flamingo, Tortoise, Eagle, Dog

✓ Once they succeed, tell the children the name of the next hiding place: **Under the cushion**

! The children go to the hiding place '**Under the cushion**' and find Riddle 7 + a map piece

7. Riddle: Redbeard's Tangled Threads

Answer: **BEDROOM** (= the next hiding place)

! The children go to the hiding place '**Bedroom**' and find Challenge 8 + a map piece

Game Kit



READY TO PRINT

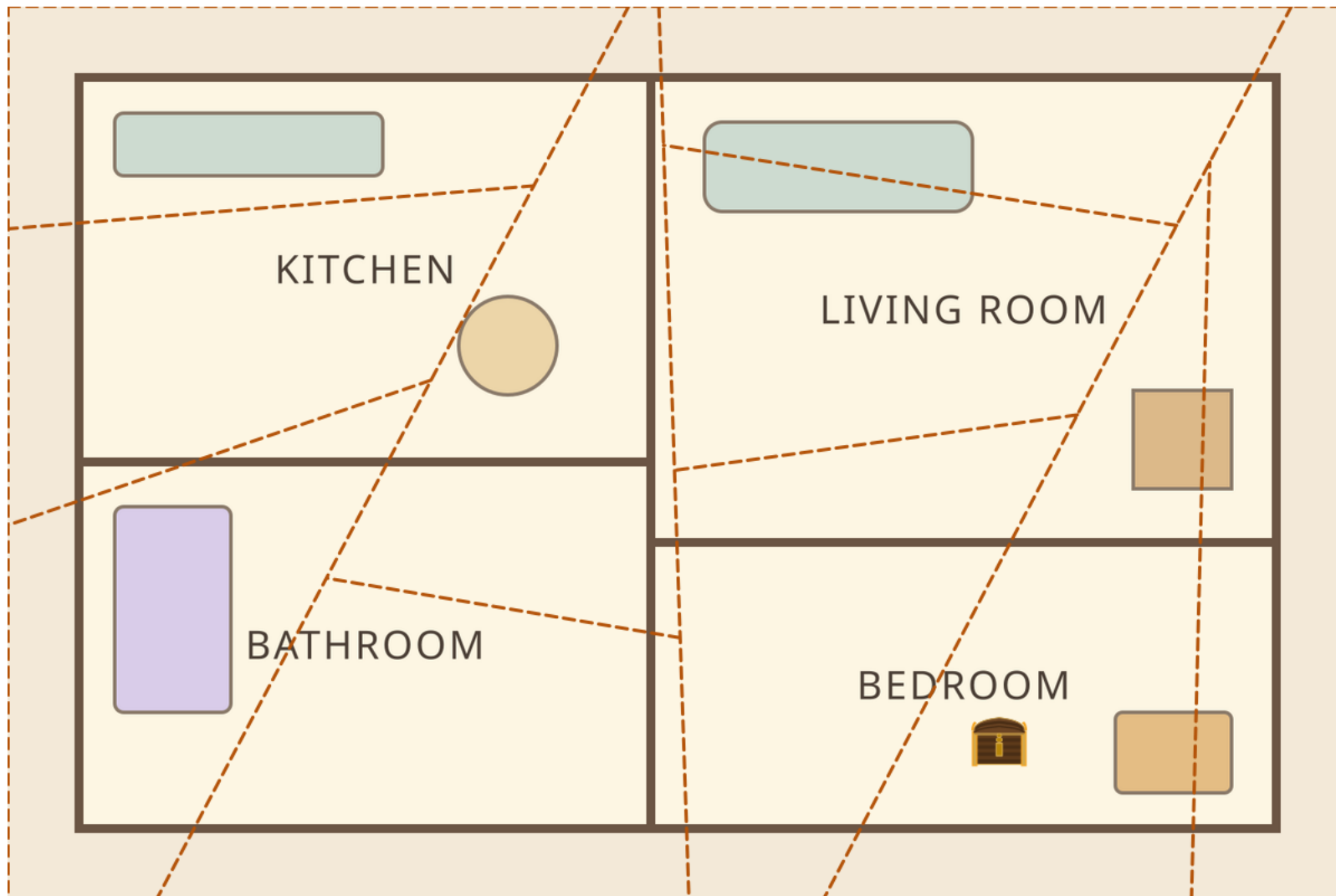
This kit has everything you need to print: the welcome letter, the riddles and challenges, the map letter, the congratulations letter, the map board and the cut-outs (treasure map and challenge cards).

Treasure Map – Cut Out

Cut out the 10 pieces along the dotted lines. Hide each piece in its hiding place (see the checklist for getting ready).



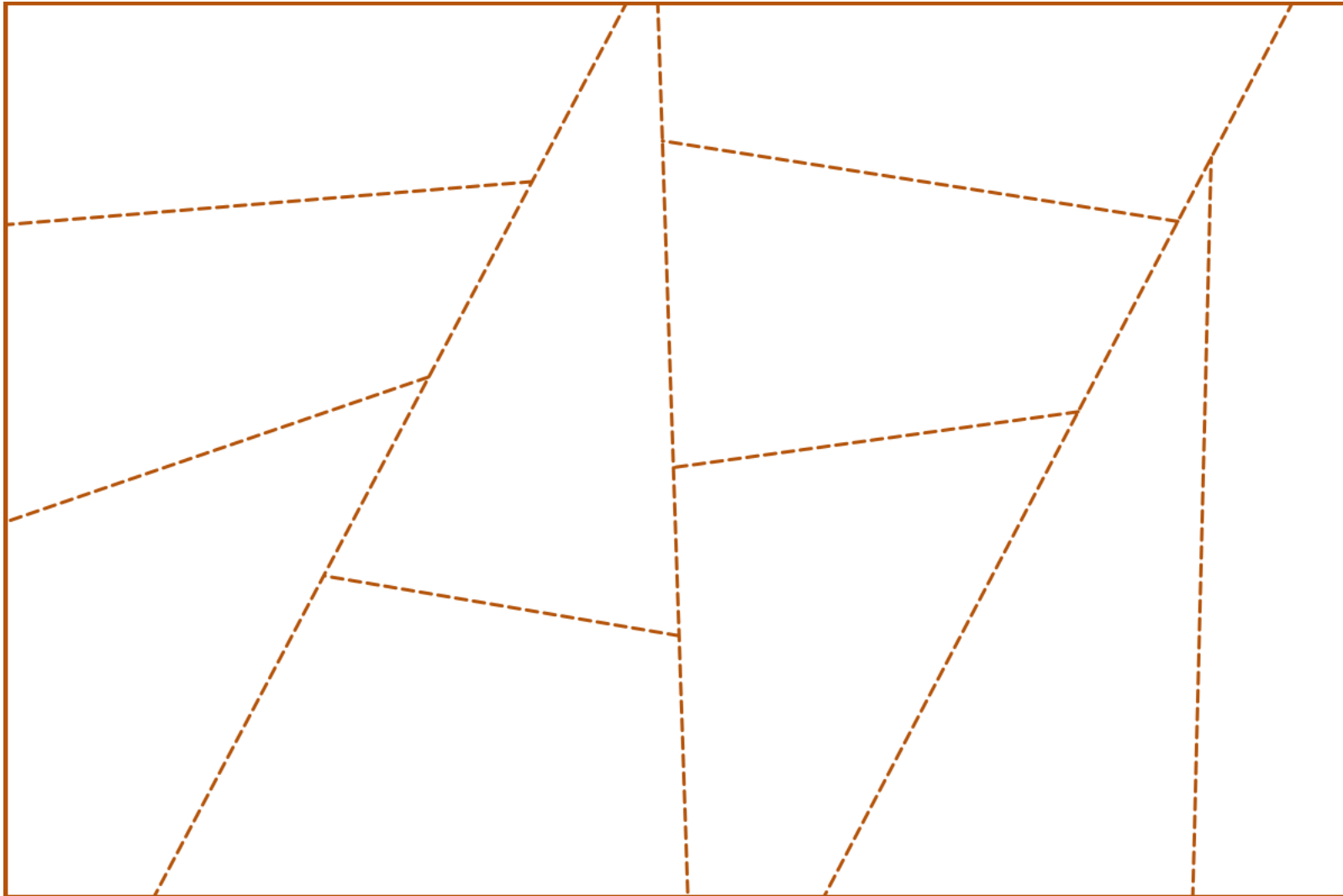
The piece with the treasure chest must be hidden in the last hiding place: Hallway



Treasure Map Board

Glue each piece you find onto its shape. Once the map is complete, it shows where the treasure is hidden!

Give this to the children at the very start of the hunt, with some glue.



Cut-outs

Cut out the cards along the dotted lines, fold them and put them in a hat or a bowl to pick from.

Animal Charades

Cow



Koala



Pig



Penguin



Parrot



Giraffe



Flamingo



Tortoise

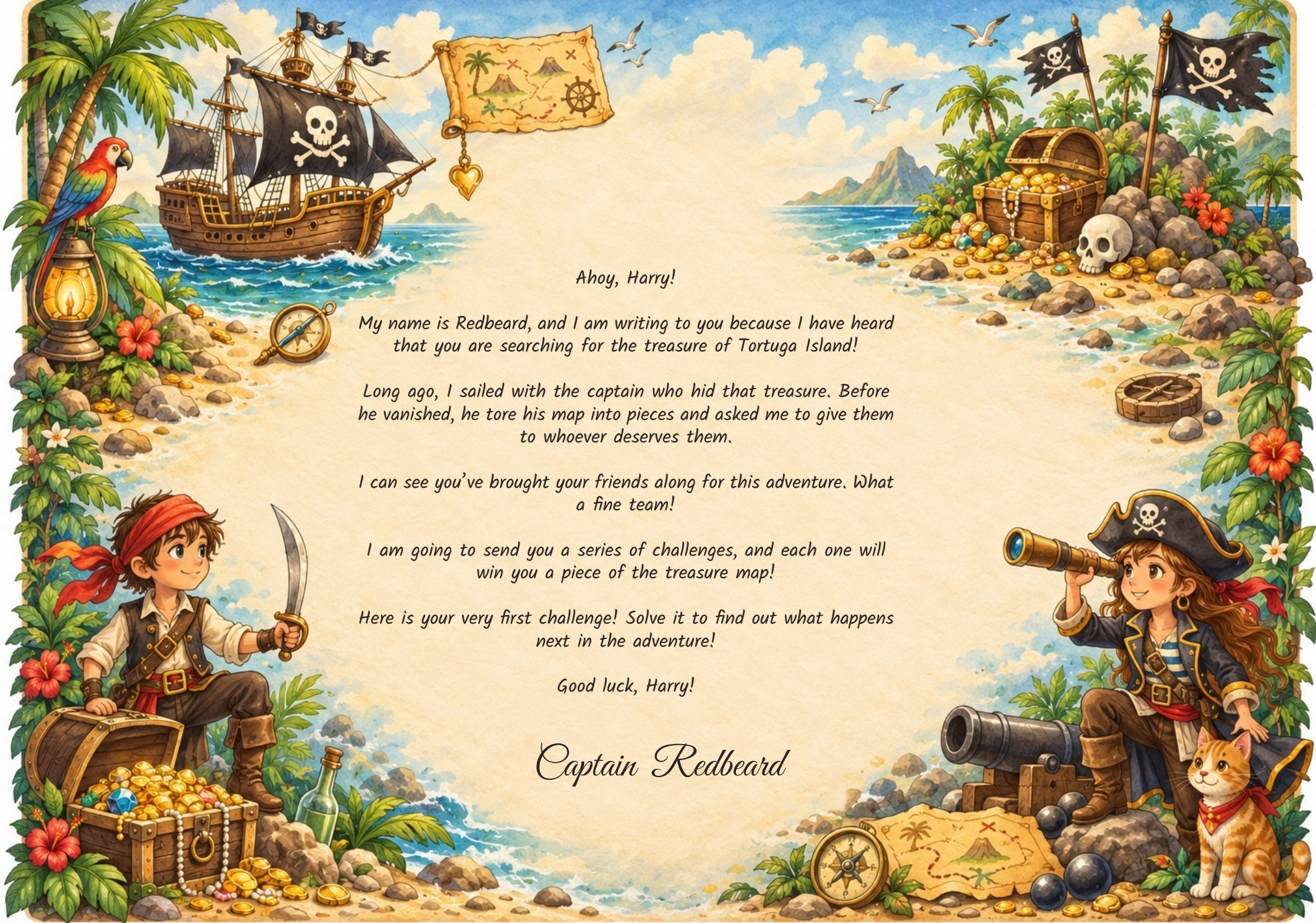


Eagle



Dog





Ahoy, Harry!

My name is Redbeard, and I am writing to you because I have heard that you are searching for the treasure of Tortuga Island!

Long ago, I sailed with the captain who hid that treasure. Before he vanished, he tore his map into pieces and asked me to give them to whoever deserves them.

I can see you've brought your friends along for this adventure. What a fine team!

I am going to send you a series of challenges, and each one will win you a piece of the treasure map!

Here is your very first challenge! Solve it to find out what happens next in the adventure!

Good luck, Harry!

Captain Redbeard

Redbeard's Riddle

Riddle 1/10

Read this riddle and guess the place it describes!

*It has a narrow slot with a flap,
That shuts again with a little snap.
Cards and flyers drop in each day,
With a grown-up, look inside, don't delay!*

The answer is:

Find the secret word, then look for the map piece in that place!

The Rainbow Hunt

Challenge 2/10

The grown-up calls out a colour: everyone has to find something in that colour and bring it back as fast as they can!

Rules:

- The grown-up calls out one colour each round
- Objects must be easy and safe to carry
- The challenge is complete when all the rounds have been played
- Each child brings back something in the right colour
- You can't bring back something that has already been brought back

Score sheet – The grown-up calls out a colour, and the children bring back something that colour:

No.	Colour called	Children who found one			Done
1				/ 5	☐
2				/ 5	☐
3				/ 5	☐
4				/ 5	☐
5				/ 5	☐
6				/ 5	☐
7				/ 5	☐
8				/ 5	☐
9				/ 5	☐
10				/ 5	☐



Challenge done!

The organiser ticks this box, then tells the children the next hiding place (see the guide).

The Feely Bag

Challenge 4/10

Put your hand into the feely bag and guess what you can feel, without looking! One object for each child.

Rules:

- Each child gets to feel ONE object
- The child says what they think they can feel
- The challenge is complete when at least half of the objects have been guessed
- No peeking into the bag: that's the whole mystery!
- Only one guess per object, to keep it exciting

Answer sheet – Write down what you think you touched:

No.	Child's answer (object guessed)	Right	Wrong
1		☐	☐
2		☐	☐
3		☐	☐
4		☐	☐
5		☐	☐
6		☐	☐
7		☐	☐
8		☐	☐
9		☐	☐
10		☐	☐

Score: ___ / 10



Challenge done!

The organiser ticks this box, then tells the children the next hiding place (see the guide).

Redbeard's Hidden Initials

Riddle 5/10

Work out what each picture shows. The first letter of each word spells the secret word!

7


8


6


10


5


9


4


3


2


11


1


First letter of each picture:

Find the secret word, then look for the map piece in that place!



**You've found all
the map pieces!**

Harry, you're nearly there!

*You have found every single piece of the map
of Tortuga Island!*

*It's amazing what you and your team have
achieved!*

*Quick, put the map back together to discover
where the old captain hid his treasure!*

Captain Redbeard



Congratulations!

My dear crew,

*You have passed every challenge and uncovered
the treasure of Tortuga Island! I am so very
proud of you!*

*What a fantastic crew you are! Every one of you
gave it your very best.*

*See you soon for new adventures on the high
seas! Arrr!*

Captain Redbeard

Adventurers' Certificates

A personalised certificate for every player. Hand them out at the end of the treasure hunt to congratulate all the adventurers!



Certificate

TREASURE HUNTER

Name: *Harry*

Date: *22 May 2027*

Am

Party Invitations

4 personalised invitations to print and hand out to your guests. Cut out each card along its edges.

