

The BIG Household Treasure Trails Challenge 2021

TASK 3 INSTRUCTIONS - Plan your trail

Greetings, Trainee Trail Writers! By now, you should have completed our Virtual Trail around Buckingham Place, and have written an awesome backstory to your household treasure hunt!

If you haven't, go back and complete Tasks 1 and 2!

TASK 3

For this task, you'll be setting your sneaky clues and planning what goes in each trail box to make your trail totally amazing.

You have 18 boxes to work with, no more, no less. You can follow our example around the palace and have seven clues in three different rooms. Or you are free to use your boxes as you wish, but you must have a 'Let's Go' box and a 'Case Solved' box.

Box Types:

Adventure Details – used as an introduction and to provide useful information for the quest.

Let's Go – use this to tell people where to start, which room and how many clues are in this room.

Clue – your clues can be riddles, puzzles, questions, or codes – anything goes, so long as someone else will be able to solve it! Each clue must also have a matching location on your map.

Photo File – always follows a clue. Use this if you want to include a photograph of something to look for as part of a clue.

Direction – use this to tell people where to go next once they've finished in a room or part of your home.

Fact File – used for facts and other interesting information which is not needed to solve the mystery.

Warning Box (not seen in our Virtual Trail) – use this to warn people of any hazards at certain points in the trail.

Case Solved – congratulate the treasure seekers and let them know how they can check their answer!

Blank Box – used for anything you wish to include that doesn't fit into one of the other boxes.

Important info:

You MUST use all 18 boxes, no more, no less. Each box allows up to 50 words.

You MUST have a Let's Go box at or near the start, and a Case Solved box at the end.

Suggestions for planning your trail:

- Use the planning documents provided, or just some plain paper, to plan out your trail.
- Select which rooms / areas of your home you will use, and how many clues will be in each room.
- Once you have decided on a use for each box, you are ready to start writing your clues!
- When setting clues, select items which are always there and unlikely to be moved or go missing! Pictures, ornaments and other permanent fixtures and fittings work well.
- If using a photo file box as part of your clue, make sure that the photo is landscape (wider than it is tall).
- Remember to create a map location for every clue answer.
- Each time you create a new map location, always go back and check that your answer does not clash with other clues.

For example, if the answer to clue 01 is 'a map location that starts with the letter M', then none of the other map locations, nor the final answer, can start with the letter M.

All done? Crack on with Tasks 4 & 5 and then follow the instructions in your email from Task 1 on how to submit your trail to us!

If your trail is chosen as our lucky winner, we'll turn your creation into a full-blown Treasure Trail PDF for you to keep! If you're not the winner, all is not lost - you've still created a fantastic trail to wow your friends and family with, either via video call or when they next visit!

Most importantly:

Have fun!