GROWN-UP GUIDE

The Birthday Trail

Six little clues. One birthday surprise.

Original playtest sample for roughly ages 6-9. An adult may read every clue aloud. Reading level, setup time and play duration have not yet been tested with families.

1 Choose your play area

Use a chair, clean shoe, book, pillow, empty unbreakable cup and folded towel. Pick one easy-to-find target for each clue, in separate, reachable spots. Missing an object? Use its picture tile from page 4 instead.

2 Print, cut and place

Keep this guide on screen or print it for yourself. Print pages 2-3 single-sided on US Letter at 100% or Actual Size. Cut out the cards. Print and cut page 4 only if you need location tiles.

Keep clue 1 in your hand. A clue points to the NEXT card.

CLUE	ITS ANSWER	HIDE BESIDE THAT TARGET
1	**CHAIR**	Clue 2
2	**SHOE**	Clue 3
3	**BOOK**	Clue 4
4	**PILLOW**	Clue 5
5	**CUP**	Clue 6
6	**TOWEL**	Finish + optional badge

Keep the gift with you, or hidden beside the finish card. You hand it over at the end; a large gift does not need to fit beside the towel.

3 Check once, then play

Walk the route once. Keep all cards and the gift out of sight. Tell players which room or rooms are in the game. Hand over clue 1 to start; collect each card after reading it.

Tell players: "A picture tile can stand in for the real thing. If you find an object with no card, keep looking inside our play area." Read aloud when helpful. Take turns if playing together.

An adult stays with the players. Use reachable spots only: no climbing or searching appliances, medicines, cleaning products or breakables.

After trying it: Which step was unclear? Which clue needed help?

Time preparation and play separately. No purchase or feedback link is included.

A birthday adventure

Cut along the dotted edges. Keep the answers on page 1.

START HERE

Clue 1

I have a seat,
but I never take a seat.
Pull me up to a table.
What am I?

Find the next card there.

KEEP GOING

Clue 2

I go outside with you,
but I cannot take a step alone.
I have room for one foot.
What am I?

Find the next card there.

KEEP GOING

Clue 3

My pages stay together.
Open me to find a story.
I can take you somewhere new
without leaving your room.
What am I?

Find the next card there.

KEEP GOING

Clue 4

I am soft and squishy.
Rest your head on me.
On a couch or on a bed,
I help you get comfy.

Find the next card there.

A birthday adventure

Cut along the dotted edges. Keep the answers on page 1.

KEEP GOING

Clue 5

My job is to hold a drink.
Today I am empty.
Look for my open top.
What am I?

Find the next card there.

KEEP GOING

Clue 6

After a wash,
I help you get dry.
I am soft and folded.
What am I?

Find the next card there.

FINISH

You found it!

Six clues solved!
Your grown-up has
your birthday surprise.
Time to celebrate!

Happy birthday!

OPTIONAL KEEPSAKE

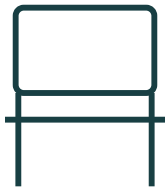
BIRTHDAY EXPLORER

A little badge for a big adventure.

No object? Use a tile.

Print only if needed. Each picture replaces one missing object.

Cut out the tiles you need. Put each in a separate, reachable spot. Hide the card listed in the guide beside it. Tell players that picture tiles count as places to search. Do not change the card order.



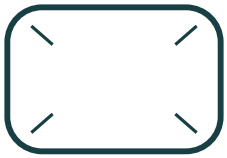
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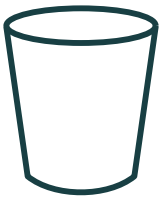
SHOE



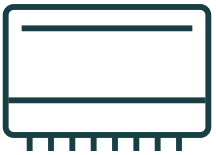
BOOK



PILLOW



CUP



TOWEL