

# Father's Day Adventure: A Super Scavenger Hunt!

## Materials Needed:

- Paper or cardstock (for clues: 4-6 small pieces; for the final card: 1 piece)
- Markers, crayons, or paint sticks
- Optional decorating supplies: stickers, glitter glue, child-safe scissors (for adult to pre-cut shapes if desired)
- Small, simple "treasure" items for 2-4 clue stations (e.g., a favorite small toy, a special sticker, a single piece of wrapped candy)
- A main Father's Day card's blank base OR a small, simple gift to be decorated, hidden at the final location.
- Tape or a way to gently place clues without damage.

## Lesson Activities:

### 1. Introduction & Excitement Building (5 minutes)

Gather your little learner and start with a fun chat:

- "Guess what special day is coming up soon? It's Father's Day! A day to show Daddy (or Grandpa, or another special father figure) how much we love him!"
- "And today, we're going on a TOP SECRET mission... a Father's Day Adventure Hunt! We're going to find clues that will lead us to a special surprise we can make for him. Are you ready to be a super spy?"

### 2. Adult Preparation (Done Beforehand - 15-20 minutes)

This part is for the grown-up to set up:

1. **Plan Your Hiding Spots:** Choose 3-5 simple and safe hiding spots around the house that are accessible to your child (e.g., under a pillow, inside their favorite shoe, next to a specific toy, in a drawer they can reach, by Dad's favorite chair).
2. **Create Simple Clues:** For each hiding spot, create a clue. For a 4-year-old, clues should be very easy to understand:
  - **Picture Clues (Highly Recommended):** Draw a simple picture of the *next* hiding spot. For example, if Clue #1 is hidden under a pillow, and Clue #2 is hidden inside a shoe, Clue #1 should have a picture of a shoe on it.
  - **Verbal Clues (if assisting):** You can say, "The next clue is where you put your feet to sleep!" (bed/pillow).
  - Number the clues so they follow a sequence. Clue #1 leads to where Clue #2 is hidden, etc.
3. **Hide Clues & Mini-Treasures:**
  - At each hiding spot (except the first one, which you'll hand to the child), place the *next* clue and a tiny "treasure" (e.g., a sticker, a single crayon of a new color they can use later, a small toy). This keeps engagement high.
  - The *final* hiding spot should contain the materials for making the Father's Day card (e.g., blank cardstock, more extensive art supplies) or the small gift to be decorated. The last

clue itself can simply say "SURPRISE! Let's make something for Dad!" with a picture of art supplies.

### 3. The Scavenger Hunt Adventure! (Main Activity - 15-20 minutes)

1. "Okay, Super Spy [Child's Name]! Your mission, should you choose to accept it, begins now! Here is your very first secret clue!" Hand them Clue #1.
2. Help them look at the picture or understand the verbal hint. "What does this look like? Where could that be?"
3. Encourage them to search. Offer cheers and guidance as needed: "You're getting warmer! Colder!"
4. When they find the clue and the mini-treasure, celebrate! "You found it! And look, a little treasure! Now, let's see what *\*this\** clue says..."
5. Repeat this process for all the clues until they reach the final location with the card-making supplies or the gift to decorate.

### 4. Creative Time: Making Dad's Surprise! (Application - 15-25 minutes)

1. "Hooray! You completed your mission and found all the special supplies! Now it's time to use your amazing art skills to make a super special card (or decorate this gift) for Dad."
2. Lay out the cardstock, markers, crayons, stickers, etc.
3. Encourage your child to draw a picture for Dad, choose their favorite colors, and decorate it in any way they like. You can ask leading questions like: "What's something you love to do with Daddy? Maybe you could draw that!" or "What's Daddy's favorite color?"
4. If they are interested, help them try to write their name or the letter 'D' for Dad. Focus on the effort and creativity, not perfection.
5. Talk about how Dad will feel when he receives this thoughtful, handmade item.

### 5. Wrap-up & "Giving" Practice (Closure - 5 minutes)

- Admire their beautiful creation together. "Wow, [Child's Name], this is a fantastic card! Daddy is going to be so happy and proud!"
- "When you give this to Dad on Father's Day, what will you say? Let's practice! How about 'Happy Father's Day, Daddy! I love you!'" (Practice a few times).
- Discuss keeping it a special secret until Father's Day (if the day hasn't arrived yet). "Let's find a super secret hiding spot for this, so it's a big surprise for Dad!"

### 6. Differentiation & Extension Ideas:

- **For Simpler Play:** Reduce the number of clues (2-3). Use only very obvious picture clues. Provide more direct verbal guidance to find each spot. The adult can 'find' the clue with the child.
- **For an Added Challenge (or for older siblings joining in):** The child can help brainstorm hiding spots and even draw some of the picture clues (with adult help). Introduce simple rhyming clues that the adult reads.
- **Post-Activity Fun:** After Father's Day, the child might enjoy creating another scavenger hunt for the adult or for a favorite toy, applying what they learned.