



## Scavenger Hunts – 3 ways

Supporting our children with noticing the world around them can seem challenging at times. Being able to see the world around you can take practice. Scavenger hunts are a fun way to play an adventure in learning and turn every day 'have to do' items into a game.

Remember – **We model fun to our children. Play with them and bring your best silly self. They will respond and want more.**



**Materials Needed:** A list of items to find. Use photos of real things, use blocks of color. Have the time and patients to play. You can prepare an environment for them or use your own space on the spot—stickers or markers to 'mark' the items found.

**How to:** Scavenger hunts can be inside, outside, at the grocery store, or in the child's room. The opportunities are endless.

### Grocery Store –

If you have a list of everyday items you purchase at the store, you can make a sheet of paper with photos of those items and help your child find them as you shop. They can get a sticker to put on each item found.

### Inside – at home –

If you choose to do an inside your home hunt, you can use blocks of color and together look around the living room or kitchen for items that match. Put the items on the color block for reference. You could categorize by size, shape, item. Find one *big* ball, find a *red* truck. Let's find *mom's* shoes.

### Outside – home or park –

If you choose to go outside, you can take pictures of trees, flowers, bugs, bird feeders, squirrels, a fence. You could use colors and find items that match the color. Use *descriptive* words to find items – touching the items (if safe) to explore how it feels – *soft, hard, heavy, light, cold, hot, wet, dry.*

**Developmentally this activity encourages** language development such as labeling objects, using adjectives to describe items and actions, giving choices, and waiting for your child to respond with a gesture, sound or word gives them control in how their play looks – even if the gesture is a slight eye glance in one direction. Hunts are a physical activity that will have you moving, searching, lifting, carrying, pointing, sticking – which also gives you more opportunities for functional language experiences. This activity supports social and emotional development to connect, explore, and know you are there to connect with and support them. You're building trust by interacting, reading their cues, and being part of their play/adventure.



**The links below have examples of how to set up these activities.**

Grocery Store hunt idea: [Grocery Store Scavenger Hunt for Toddlers – Let's Live and Learn \(letsliveandlearn.com\)](https://letsliveandlearn.com)

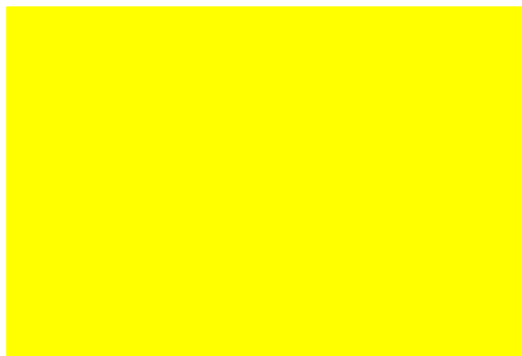
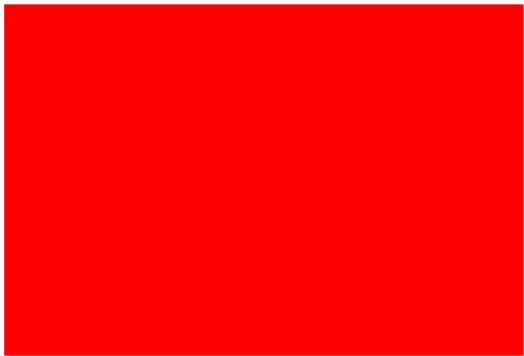
Color hunt Idea: [Indoor Color Scavenger Hunt for Preschoolers and Toddlers - Creative Family Fun](#)

Outside hunt idea – using contact paper: [Sticky Scavenger Hunt • Little Pine Learners](#)

Inside Hunt idea: [Indoor Scavenger Hunts for Kids - Inspire the Mom](#)







Let's Find the Colors!