

**EMPOWERING YOUNG PEOPLE TO THRIVE, CONNECT, AND SUCCEED!** 



# WEEK 1: LISTEN LIKE A TREASURE HUNTER



#### Pause the Screens, Find the Gems!

This week, we're helping kids learn to listen closely and connect with others-like treasure hunters searching for gold! Every conversation holds hidden gems: the main idea, important details, and feelings that help us understand each other better.

#### This week's challenge:

Set aside your phones, tablets, computers, and video games. Enjoy meaningful time listening and connecting with your child with these activitiesyou might be surprised by what you discover!

#### **WORD RELAY**

One person starts by saying a word-like "beach." The next person adds a related word, like "**sand**," and it keeps going: "castle," "waves," vacation!" Everyone takes turns, thinking fast and listening carefully to keep the chain going.



#### **Treasure Hunter Tip:**

This game builds quick thinking and great listening. Following each other's ideas is a powerful way to connect. Try fun topics like animals, foods, or places to keep it surprising!

#### **STORY WITH A TWIST**

Take turns telling a fun or silly story about yourself. Here's the twist: the story can be either true or false—no one knows except the storyteller! Everyone else quesses whether the story is true or false.



#### **Treasure Hunter Tip:**

Listen carefully to the storyteller and ask yourself: Does this sound like something they'd really do? Use the hidden gems in their story—and what you know about them—to make your best guess. Is it true or false? It's a fun way to see how well you know each other and uncover a few surprises!

#### **SING & SEEK**

One person sings their favorite song—or makes up a silly one on the spot! The rest of the family listens like Treasure Hunters, searching for hidden gems in the performance. These gems could be a unique or funny lyric, a dramatic moment, or even the feeling behind the song-like silly, happy, sad, or spooky!



#### Treasure Hunter Tip:

After each performance, everyone shares a hidden gem they noticed. Listening this way helps families laugh together and build stronger bonds.



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### DINNERTIME ACTIVITIES

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#### My Day, Your Day

One person shares a quick detail from their day— something funny, surprising, or meaningful. Then, the next person connects it to something from their own day that relates in some way. Keep going around the table, with each person listening closely and tying their story to the one before.



#### **Treasure Hunter Tip:**

This game helps everyone practice listening for the hidden gems in each other's day. When we find ways our stories connect, we understand each other better—and grow closer as a family.

## TREASURE HUNTER ON GUARD!

One person tells a real story from their day, including one strong feeling and one important detail. At the end, they say, "On Guard!" and call someone's name. That person repeats the main idea, an important detail, and the feeling they heard. If they miss something, the storyteller helps them find the hidden gems. Now take turns!



#### **Treasure Hunter Tip:**

Listening closely helps us keep track of the important details in each other's lives and that's how families stay connected.

## GEM OF A PERFORMANCE

Take turns acting out and performing something dramatic—it can be made-up or real—and use as many emotions as you can! Everyone else listens like Treasure Hunters, identifying the different emotions they see and hear being acted out.



#### Treasure Hunter Tip:

After the scene, each person shares one emotional gem they spotted and the clue that helped them find it.



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## THE GOODNIGHT TREASURE HUNT

Before bed, each person shares a "treasure" from their day—something they learned, something that made them happy, something they're proud of, or something they're grateful for—like little hidden gems from the day that made it special.



#### **Treasure Hunter Tip:**

Even the smallest moments can hold big meaning. When we share our treasures, we end the day feeling connected, thankful, and close as a family.

#### **TOMORROW MAP**

Before bed, think about one thing you'd like to do tomorrow—like being kind, learning something new, or having fun with someone you care about. That becomes part of your Tomorrow Map—a little treasure moment to look forward to. Everyone takes a turn sharing theirs. You're making a simple map of tomorrow's good moments, together.



#### **Treasure Hunter Tip:**

When we think ahead to something good, we go to sleep with peace and wake up with purpose. Tomorrow is full of treasure—just waiting to be lived!

#### ONCE UPON A DREAM

Take turns sharing something you'd love to do someday—a dream, goal, or simple wish. These dreams are like treasures waiting to be discovered on life's journey. Listen carefully to each other's dream and treat it like a hidden gem. You can ask things like, "Why is that dream important to you?" or "What would make it even more special?"



#### Treasure Hunter Tip:

When we listen to each other's dreams, we learn what really matters—and that helps us feel seen, supported, and connected.