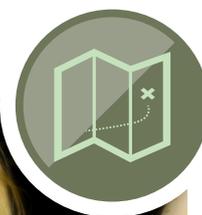


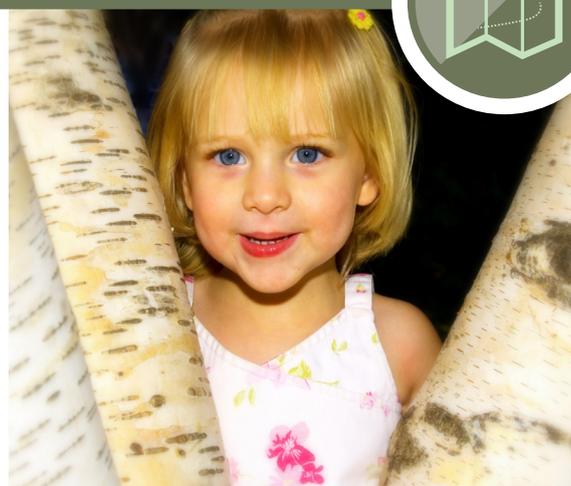
## ACTIVITY 9



# Map Making / Trail Laying

<b>Season</b>	All
<b>Site</b>	All
<b>Age Group</b>	5 years and above
<b>No. of Children</b>	Any

**Equipment Needed:** Pencils and paper



### Instructions

1. This can be done to show other groups the location of your den / mini-den; or you can ask children to look around the woodland to find a special item that they are going to hide. To make it easier, wrap this item in a piece of cloth so that the child can identify it once found.
2. Once the object of the map (either den or treasure) is identified, then select a start point which is where all the trails will lead out from; and will be shown on the map as the start point.
3. Ask the children to identify which way is north (either with a compass or by looking at the lichens, mosses and spider's webs on the trees, which will be facing south).
4. Talk about any prominent, permanent features of the site (i.e. pond, river, paths, large trees, hollow, clearing etc.) which can feature on their maps
5. Hand out the attached 'trails signs' key to ensure that all of the children's tracks and trails will mean the same thing. Explain that the trail signs should be big enough to be obvious, as close to the key as possible and created on a cleared space so that they stand out. As an extension the children could make their own keys to their made-up trail signs.
6. Allow plenty of time for the children to draw their maps to their object and to lay a trail to follow, using the key. This might take up to an hour but depends on the group. Location of trail signs can be drawn on maps to make finding the object easier.
7. Once all of the groups have completed their maps and trails, meet at the start point. Ask the children to swap their maps with another team, and accompany that team to see if they can find their object. This should be done without guidance, unless the finding team go completely wrong!
8. Ensure that each group has had a turn at finding an object and also had their object found.

