



On the Scent

Background Info:

Many animals navigate through their surroundings and find food primarily using their sense of smell. Northern Michigan species with particularly developed olfactory abilities include badgers, voles, bears, coyotes, foxes, bobcats, deer, and turkey vultures. In this game, the “seeker” will role play one of these species by tuning into their sense of smell to find a hidden treasure.

Materials:

- Strong-smelling essential oil, like peppermint, lemon, or tea tree
- “Treasure,” like a yummy snack or a fun toy

How To:

1. Set up the course: Place a few drops of essential oil every few feet, creating a scent trail. Hide the treasure at the end of the scent trail.
2. Let the “seeker” smell the bottle of essential oil so they know which scent they are following, and tell them to follow the scent trail to find the treasure.
3. Let the “seekers” loose to find their bounty!

