30 July 2025

OOSH
EDUCATORS DAY
Scavenger Hunt

network
of Community Activities

OOSH
EDUCATORS DAY
SCAVENGER HUNT

Theme: Recognition and Appreciation

Overview

Purpose: Celebrate OOSH Educators Day through a fun, interactive scavenger hunt that fosters gratitude and recognition.

Duration: 30–45 minutes

Setting: After school care (indoor and/or outdoor depending on which clues you use).

Links to My time, Our place
Outcome 1.4: Children learn to interact in relation to others with care, empathy and respect.

Outcome 2.1: Children develop a sense of belonging to groups and communities and an understanding of the reciprocal rights and responsibilities necessary for active community participation.

Outcome 2.3: Children become aware of fairness.

Outcome 3.2: Children take increasing responsibility for their own health and physical wellbeing.

Outcome 4.1: Children develop dispositions for learning such as curiosity, cooperation, confidence, creativity, commitment, enthusiasm, persistence, imagination and reflexivity.

Outcome 5.1: Children interact verbally and non-verbally with others for a range of purposes.

Setup
Prepare clue cards and hide them in designated locations.
Provide paper, pencils, art materials, and any required props.
Create a display area titled “Appreciation Station” for kids to post their creations.
Prepare paper tokens (stars, hearts, stickers) to reward completed tasks.

Wrap-Up
End at the Appreciation Station.
Kids post their drawings, notes, cards, or tokens.
Host a mini awards ceremony or open mic for kids to express thanks.

Optional Extras
Certificates for kids
Badges for educators
Group photo in front of the Appreciation Station

Printable Clue Cards
Print each clue and task on a separate card or sheet.
Use bold for clues and italics for tasks.
You can cut and distribute them as the children complete each step or hide them at each location.

Facilitator Checklist

Before the Event:

- ☐ Print and cut out clue cards
- ☐ Identify and prep each clue location
- ☐ Gather materials: paper, pencils, sticky notes, building blocks, books, props, tokens
- ☐ Prepare the **Appreciation Station** display wall or table
- ☐ Set up the Mystery Box with pre-written missions inside

During the Hunt:

- ☐ Brief children on the scavenger hunt rules and theme
- ☐ Assign team leaders or group facilitators if needed
- ☐ Ensure each group starts at a different clue to avoid crowding
- ☐ Take photos of key moments (if permission granted)
- ☐ Hand out tokens as tasks are completed

After the Hunt:

- ☐ Host the mini celebration or open mic at the Appreciation Station

Printable Clue Cards
Cut these out and place each at its designated location. Each card includes the main clue, task, and a physical alternative task.

1

Clue 1: The Start

Clue: Look where your bags take a rest, your first clue's waiting with a test.

Task: Write or draw one thing you love about your educators.

Physical Challenge: Do 10 jumping jacks while saying something kind about your educator after each one.

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EDUCATORS DAY
Recognition & Appreciation

2

Clue 2: Art & Soul

Clue: Where paint and pencils come alive, your next challenge is to strive!

Task: Make a thank-you card or paper flower for an educator.

Physical Challenge: Balance a pencil on your finger and walk three metres without dropping it—then shout out one word that describes your educator.

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EDUCATORS DAY
Recognition & Appreciation

3

Clue 3: The Place of Play

Clue: Where we go when we run or play, your next clue is not far away!

Task: As a team, spell out the word "THANKS" using your bodies or objects.

Physical Challenge: Hop to five different playground stations while saying one thing you're grateful for at each stop.

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EDUCATORS DAY
Recognition & Appreciation

4

Clue 4: The Snack Stop

Clue: Where snacks are served and tummies growl, look around and find your goal.

Task: Make a pretend menu or poster of your educator's favourite snack.

Physical Challenge: Hold a 'pretend cooking' relay using imaginary ingredients—pass the invisible bowl while naming something your educator does that helps others.

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Recognition & Appreciation

Clue 5: The Cosy Corner

Clue: Find a spot that's calm and still, where stories live and time can chill.

Task: Pick a book and say why it reminds you of an educator.

Physical Challenge: Crawl like a bookworm from one end of the quiet space to the other, whispering a thank-you message as you go.

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Recognition & Appreciation

Clue 6: Games Galore Spot

Clue: Where we roll the dice or move a pawn, your next task is waiting on the lawn!

Task: Create and perform a cheer to thank your educators.

Physical Challenge: Complete a quick obstacle course made of chairs or cones—at each point, shout a letter in the word "THANKS."

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Recognition & Appreciation

Clue 7: Sign-In Station

Clue: Where names are written and days begin, your next clue's there—go find your win!

Task: Write a compliment to your educator on a sticky note and post it on the wall.

Physical Challenge: Tiptoe silently from the sign-in area to the wall while balancing a book or soft toy on your head. Then say your compliment out loud.

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Recognition & Appreciation

Clue 8: Busy Builders' Zone

Clue: Blocks, bricks and creativity grow, your next clue is somewhere low!

Task: Build something that reminds you of your educator.

Physical Challenge: Stack 10 blocks while standing on one leg. For each block, name one great thing your educator does.

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EDUCATORS DAY
Recognition & Appreciation

9

Clue 9: Chill-Out Zone

Clue: Where beanbags wait and cushions lie, your next clue is nearby!

Task: Share your favourite memory with an educator.

Physical Challenge: Pass a cushion around in a circle. When it stops, the person holding it does a silly move while saying something they love about the educators.

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EDUCATORS DAY
Recognition & Appreciation

10

Clue 10: Mystery Box

Clue: A box of wonder, a box of fun—your final clue, then you're all done!

Task: Pull a secret appreciation mission from the box and complete it.

Physical Challenge: Do five star jumps before and after pulling your mission. Complete it with flair!

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