

New Beginnings

The Quest for the Most Valuable Treasure

Here's an outline for a New Beginnings that may go well with this year's theme "...We search after these things." It's a treasure hunt in Indiana Jones style. We invited all YW and their mothers to come "dressed for adventure."

We started in the YW's room, with a rough wooden box wrapped in old and dirty-looking fabric sitting on the front table. There were ancient-looking markings on the cloth. After the welcome, song, prayer, and theme, one of the YW leaders (dressed like an explorer) introduced the Quest: "While exploring remote caves I found a box covered in ancient writing – this is the interpretation:

- 1) Can only be unwrapped in gathering of valiant young women and elect ladies. **invite one or two of the YW to come up and unwrap the box. Inside should be the clues (see attachment), printed on parchment or something old looking.**
- 2) Each scroll can only be read by a team of one young woman and one adult
- 3) Teams must work together to find their treasure
- 4) Treasures must not be opened until all teams have returned to YW room"

**Girls paired up with their moms or another adult leader, then teams came up and each got a clue. They should all unwrap the clues at the same time and head out to find their treasures then return to this room. The clues are riddles that lead the girls to different spots in the church building where "treasures" are hidden. **

When they return, read: 5) Treasures must be opened in order. Read side 1 then turn over and post on chalkboard. **Treasures are card-stock gems (see attachment) wrapped in old linen-looking cloth and tied with twine. On side one is a value and it's scripture or an age group symbol, on the other side is a word. When the words are all posted on the chalkboard, they give the clue to the final treasure.**

After all treasures are read and posted, the Stake YW Pres. led everyone to the Relief Society room, where there was a chain and padlock on the door. Using the clues, she unlocked the door, and led everyone to the treasure. The treasure was a treasure chest-looking box filled with personal progress items (bookmarks and ribbons, medallions, books, journals, etc), a charm bracelet for each girl with a red "ruby" and their initial on it, as well as ring-pops, candy necklaces, and strings of beads and jewels to make it look flashy. The box was sitting elevated on velvet with a spotlight shining right on it.

Once everyone got a look at the treasure, our Stake YW Pres spoke on Proverbs 3:15, Luke 12:34 and how girls can use mentors to help them with Personal Progress.

We concluded by every girl getting her share of the treasure (PP supplies, bracelet, and goodies) then a prayer and refreshments. The girls thought it was a very cool night.