

MYSTERY BOX GAME



Work with members of your household to identify a natural mystery item using only your sense of touch!



MATERIALS:

- ▶ Mystery box
- ▶ Mystery materials gathered from backyard or other outdoor space

TIME:

20-45 minutes

PLAYERS:

3+ players, ideal for ages 6-8

INSTRUCTIONS:

1

Player A searches through a backyard or outdoor area and selects a small mystery item -- maybe a leaf, stone, flower, or piece of bark. The player secretly places the item in the mystery box and brings the box back to the other players.

MAKING YOUR MYSTERY BOX

With the help of an adult, use a box cutter or scissors to cut one small hole in the top of an empty shoe box or tissue box. The hole should be just large enough for your hand to comfortably fit through. You can also cut two holes--one for each hand.



2

Player B places their hands in the mystery box, and using only their sense of touch (no peeking!), describes the item to Player C.

While describing, think about:

- ▶ **Size** -- is the item big or small compared to your hands?
- ▶ **Shape** -- does the item have a recognizable shape?
- ▶ **Weight** -- is the item heavy or light?
- ▶ **Texture** -- how does the item feel? (rough, soft, spiky)

The item is long, thin, and smooth!

I notice the item has many small spikes!

Try NOT to say, "it feels like a leaf!" or "this is a rock!"

Instead, try using phrases like:

- ▶ "I notice..."
- ▶ "I wonder..."
- ▶ "This reminds me of..."

The item is rough and very heavy!

3

Based on Player B's description, Player C guesses what the mystery item is. If there are more than 3 players, there can be multiple player C's. Players B and C must work together to discover the item.

4

The round ends when Player C guesses the item correctly. Player A will know when to stop the round.

5

Start a new round! Make sure everyone gets a chance to be Player A, B, and C.



Game adapted from Captain Planet Foundation's mystery box activity