

# STEM

*starts now*

## Treasure Maps

**Recommended Age:** 48–52 Months

**STEM concepts:** Science (physical science), Technology (simple tools), Engineering (engineering), Math (measurement, spatial recognition)

**Materials:** a large piece of paper, pencils and markers, a measuring tool (use a giant stuffed animal or a favorite book) (for this we will use a stuffed panda as an example), treasure

**What to do:** Start by putting the treasure in a location. Then starting at the treasure measure with the choice of measuring tool. For example, from the treasure to the bedroom door is 5 large pandas. Then use directional words like left, right, straight. Following these directions draw a map from one point to another.

**Language and Communication:** Use directional words left, right, straight. Using direction and measuring distance are teaching fundamentals to understanding spatial perception.

**Expand the Activity:** Challenge your child to hide the treasure somewhere independently and draw a map for you to follow. Encourage this by drawing the map as they go to remember which direction to draw the arrows.

