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Group 1 – Escape from Umbridge's Office





Group 2 – Escape from Umbridge's Office



Group 3 – Rescue the Summer Reading Club Medals



Group 4 – Rescue the SRC Medals

Why Escape Rooms?

- They're fun!
- They get people excited about the library
- They're adaptable
- They are educational
- They work for a wide variety of user groups



How many 12 year olds have you had bring their birthday party to the library?

The Rooms



Train Robbery! (2016)



Escape from Umbridge's Office (2018)



Rescue the Summer Reading Club Medals (2018)

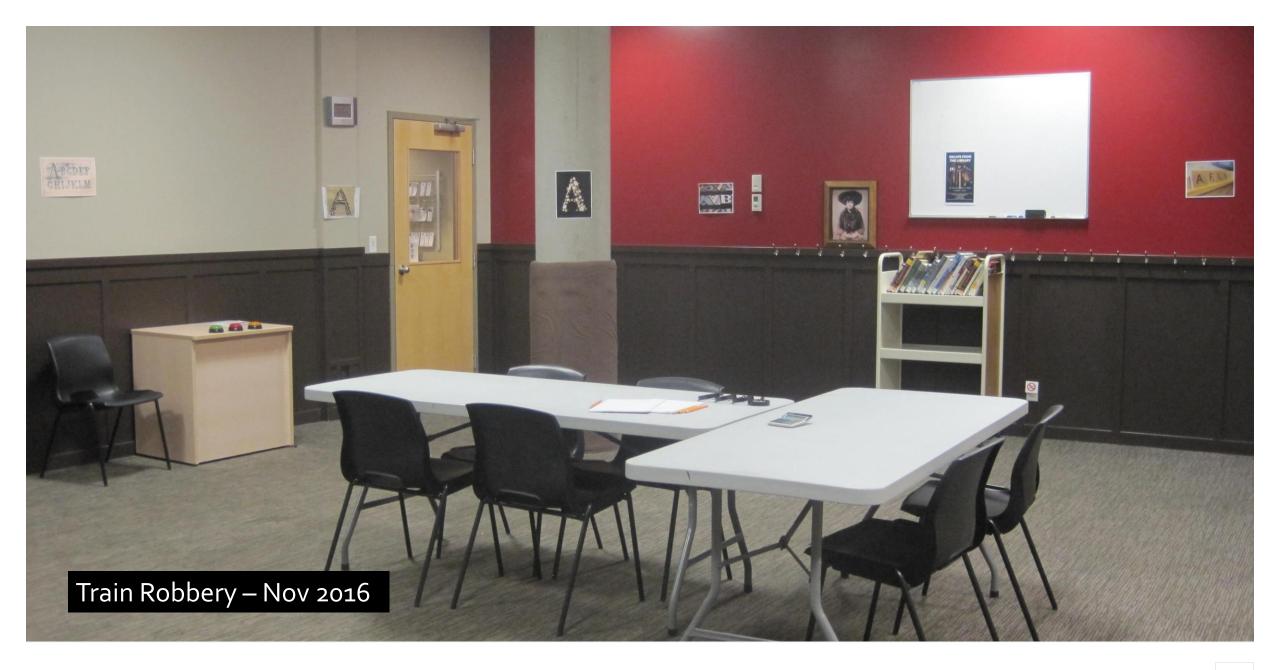
Research & Planning

- "101 Best Escape Room Puzzle Ideas" – Now Escape
- "18 Essential Strategies for Creating a Great Escape Room" – Now Escape
- Do(n't) Panic! A Manual for original library Escape Room events – Nicole Scherer (Fairfield Public Library CT)



How do you secure things in a room in which you usually only have child-safe locks?

- One program room
- Room couldn't be locked from the inside
- Full of cabinets with program materials stored inside
- Only child-safety locks on cabinets
- Limited access to the room



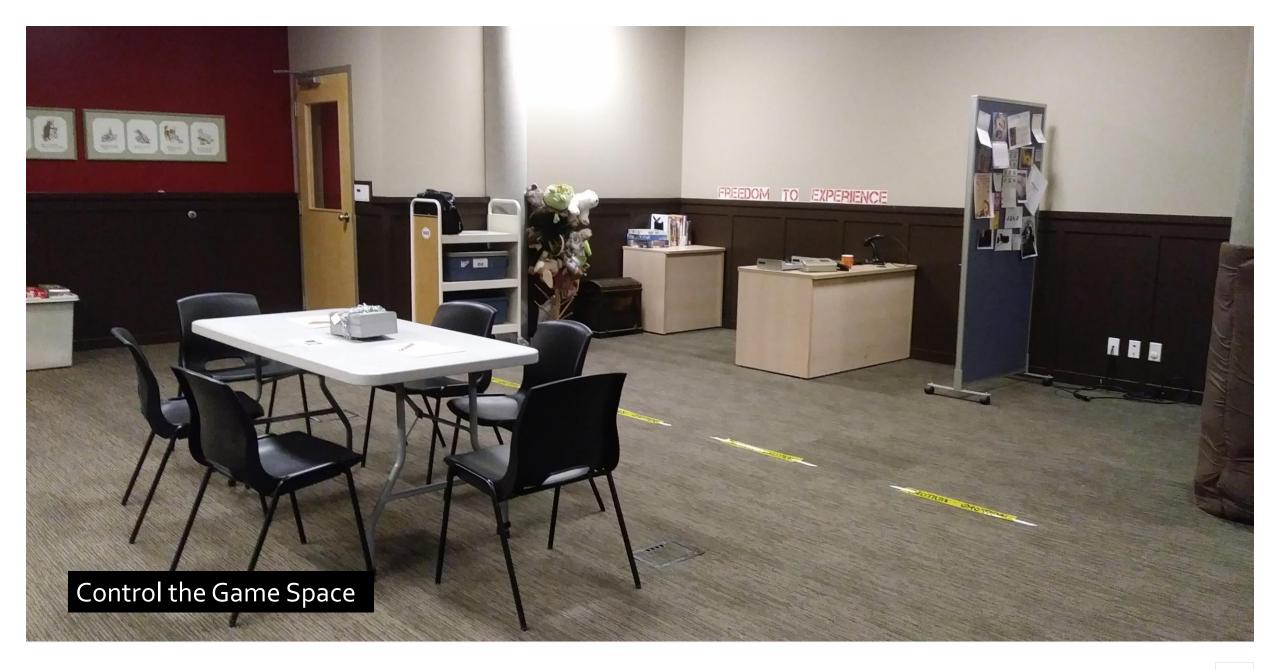
Lessons Learned

- "Not a Clue!" labels
- No red herrings
- Have a clear story
- Things that can't lock are no fun
- Function is more important than form



Our "knot puzzle" and "Not a Clue!" labels

- Have a secondary clue when context is important
- It's more fun when everyone is successful
- Groups between 2-6 people



It's all about Problem Solving

- Finding all the pieces of something
- Putting all the pieces of something in the right order
- Missing letters that spell out a clue
- Clues in another language

Harry Potter and the Deat ly Hallows
Harry Potter and the Ph losopher's Stone
Harry Potter and the Chamber of Se rets

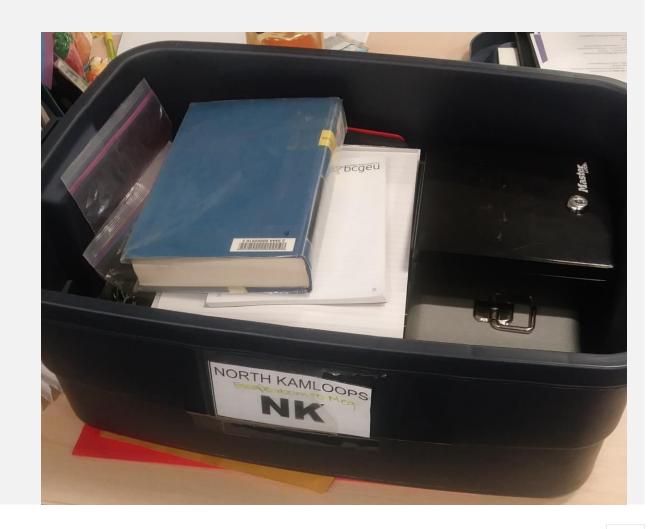
Harry Potter and the Prison r of Azkaban Harry Potter and the Half-Blood P ince Harry Potter and the Order of the Phe nix

Missing Letter Puzzle – Escape from Umbridge's Office

- Hidden keys
- Layered papers
- Clues in code
 - Book code
 - Substitution codes
- Letters in a maze
- Clues in documents that need to be identified

What's in our Kit?

- 3 lockable cashboxes
- 2 lengths of chain
- 1 programmable word lock
- 1 alphanumeric lock (optional)
- 1 key lock
- 1 hollow book
- 1 roll of caution ribbon/tape
- Notebooks & pens
- Book ends
- Binder with program plans
- USB key with masters of printable materials





Small lockable cashbox



Lockable cashbox with handle (can be locked with chains)



Lockable cashbox with handle (can be locked with chains)



2 lengths of chain



Programmable word lock



Roll of caution tape



Binder with program plans



Key lock



Notebooks



Not a Clue Labels



What comes in the Kit?

- Program Plan
- Suggested Room Layout
- Clue Map
- Pensieve
- Sorting Hat
- Dragon Puppet
- Cat plates
- Beige cash box
- Length of chain
- Word lock
- Black cash box
- Card with Deathly Hallows symbol

- Catalogue Cards with letters on them: Qui, sq, uis, <space>, pul, sat
- Key for black cash box
- Educational Decrees
- Missing Letters Puzzle
- Book Code
- Runic Code
- Sorting Hat Riddle
- Umbridge Letter
- Not a clue label

What does the branch need to provide?

- Desk/Table
- Bookcase/Table
- Wall/Board
- Half written message on desk "the memories must be key"
- Table for participants to work at
- Pencils
- Paper
- Additional set dressing as desired: tea cup, confiscated wand, potions, tablecloth, robe, fireplace

- Harry Potter 4
- Harry Potter 7
- Cat Speak
- Happy Teachers Change the World
- Management
- The Anti-Bullying Handbook
- Change with Confidence
- Cat Sense
- Additional books related to magic or Harry Potter as desired

The final spell is "Quisquis pulsat hic ero licuerit relinques". It is divided into three parts which are hidden separately around the room. The Umbridge Letter explains this. Piece three: Piece two: **Explanatory Clue** Piece One: Quisquis pulsat hic ero licuerit relinques Clue explaining what order Book titles are printed on the the three pieces of the spell "Book Code" file. The numbers refer to the page, line, word, back of the educational "Missing Letter Puzzle" file should be put into is the letter in HP 7. decrees. "Sorting Hat" file. "Missing Letter" paper is hidden in "Sorting Hat" paper is rolled and Catalogue cards are hidden in the unlocked cash box (beige), which is The printed "Book Code" is hidden in the locked black cash box which can hidden inside the sorting hat on corresponding books with letters wrapped with the length of chain be concealed in the room (possibly under the desk/table) the desk on them. so it can't be opened. The numerical order of the decrees The deathly hallows symbol is the Length of chain is secured with the The key to the locked cash box clue that the Book Code needs to indicates what order the cards word lock which is set to "PLOT" (black) is hidden inside pensieve be deciphered using HP 7 should be put into. Broken into six cards: Qui, sq, uis, the clue that the key is in the <space>, pul, sat. The word "PLOT" is written in code pensieve is the note on on a catalogue card and hidden in The title of the book they are Umbridge's desk "the memories inside HP 4 hidden in is written on the back of must be KEY" the card. The key to decipher the code is the "Runic Code" which is rolled and The Clue Map hidden inside the dragon. The clue to the dragon is the dragon on the cover of HP 4 + the first task.



What comes in the Kit?

- Program Plan
- Suggested Room Layout
- Clue Map
- Grey cash box
- Beige cash box
- Black cash box
- Treasure chest
- Length of chain (x2)
- Word lock
- Gold Master lock
- Key for black cash box
- Key for grey cash box

- Key for beige cash box
- Key for gold Master lock
- Popsicle Sticks
- Yarn Bin
- Old catalogue cards
- Post-it notes
- Old Summer Reading Club medals
- The Evolution of Human Nature hollow book
- Not a clue labels

What does the branch need to provide?

- Desk/Table
- Chair
- Bookcase/Table
- Wall/Bulletin Board
- Hole punch, Stapler, Tape
- Laptop
- Desk tray
- Notebook
- Colouring sheets/other papers
- Written note "the decimal goes in the middle"
- Braille written on cards 4, 5, 6
- Tic tac toe code written on post-it notes

- Code written on back of "Kittens Yarn" picture 55-11-43-34
- Table for participants to work at
- Chairs
- Pencils
- Paper
- Additional set dressing as desired: tea cup, notebooks, papers in desk tray, papers on bulletin board, to-do lists, etc.
- Lu & Clancy's Secret Codes (j652.8 MAS)
- Animals: Knowledge you can Touch (j590 ANI)
- Additional books related to libraries, librarians, library programming to fill out book shelf

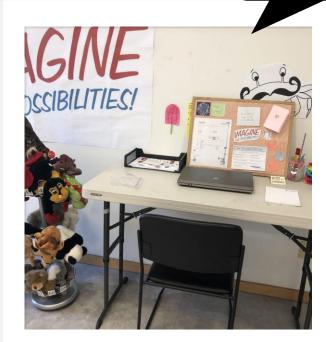
The key to open the gold Master lock securing the chain around the unlocked cash box (grey) is hidden inside the hollowed out book "The Evolution of Human Nature". The call number for the book is 364.95456 SAW and is split into 3 pieces. Participants need to take the call number out into the library to find the book and retrieve the key. **Explanatory Clue** Piece three: 456 Piece One: 36 Piece two: 4.95 Clue is written out on the seven Popsicle Sticks Braille written out on three old catalogue cards (make sure to You now have the first part of "Layered Papers Clue" file orient them so the Braille matches the upright direction of the participants are searching for is the "Postcard" file the number you will need to text on the back) find the key. 42-6=36". The popsicle sticks are hidden 1st clue indicating the order of around the game area in random One paper is hidden in the locked cash box (beige) which is hidden in 2nd paper is taped under the The Braille cards are hidden in locked cash box (black) which is hidden the 3 pieces is on the Popsicle places. the treasure chest under the desk (If you have a puppet tree hide them in the puppets.) 2nd clue indicating the order of the 3 piecesis a clue "the The key to the locked cash box Cash box is wrapped in the chain Key to cash box is taped under Have to work out Braillemessage which is locked with word lock written on a note or on post-it the stapler using page numbers (Animals) "MATH" and gold Master lock note inside a notebook on the Braille book is on book shelf yarn bin is a note in code on the "Animals: Knowledge you can back of the "Kittens Yarn" picture toe code (pg 26 Lu and Clancy) with YARN (55-11-43-34) written (j590 ANI) in grid code (pg 16 Lu & Clancy) Book with key to cipher code is Clue to identify Braille is on the "Kittens Yarn" picture is on on the book shelf "Maze Clue" file. "Count it out bulletin board with other animal "Lu and Clancy's Secret Codes" with your fingers" pictures/notices 4 letters of cipher code are Book with key to cipher code is The Clue Map hidden on post-it notes around Maze Clue is hidden among on the book shelf the room - under hole punch, colouring pages/other papers ir "Lu and Clancy's Secret Codes" mastermind, laptop, on bulletin board

March 2018

August 2019



North Kamloops Library



Kamloops Library



Resources

- 101 Best Escape Room Puzzle Ideas Now Escape (https://nowescape.com/blog/101-best-puzzle- ideas-for-escape-rooms/)
- 18 Essential Strategies for Creating a Great Escape Room Now Escape (https://nowescape.com/blog/18-essential-strategies-for-creating-a-great-escape-room/)
- Do(n't) Panic! A Manual for original library Escape Room events Nicole Scherer (https://libraryladynicole.com/programs/escape-room/)