

HOW IT WORKS

Each team receives a map. Each treasure hunt participant will receive an answer sheet and a set of clues. Each clue leads to a specific location within the borders marked on the map, where you must find a piece of information that answers a question posed in the clue (see example below). You'll write the answers on your team's Answer Sheet, which you must submit **before 4:00pm** when you return to Frank Ogawa Plaza. All submissions must be entered before 4:00pm to be eligible for prizes! The teams with the highest number of correct answers in the least amount of time will win.

Sample clue:

This 100-year-old building was once the tallest in Oakland. Its street address is "1" and its highest-ranking employee runs a race that doesn't involve distance. It's marked as "Number 28" near its front steps, where you'll learn that it's a fifth.

Its nickname was once a type of culinary confection. What was that nickname?

Solution: Oakland's City Hall, completed in 1914 is 335 feet tall and was once the tallest building in Oakland. Its address is 1 Frank H. Ogawa Plaza and its highest-ranking employee is Oakland's mayor. A green enamel plaque to the right of its entry marks it as Oakland Landmark Number 28 and describes its history: it was Oakland's fifth City Hall and was nicknamed "Mayor Mott's wedding cake" because of its three-tiered design resembled a wedding cake. You would write "Mayor Mott's Wedding Cake" on your Answer Sheet to prove you correctly solved this clue.

The treasure hunt is an exercise in urban awareness that tests your observational skills and makes you see and appreciate nuanced features of your environment that you normally overlook. To solve the clues, you may need to look up and down and to notice things like old signs, historical plaques, public art and other obscure features of the urban landscape. The things you are seeking are usually in plain sight if you look carefully and search systematically.

RULES:

The treasure hunt rules are designed to make this a fair and fun experience for everyone involved.

You must travel by foot. You cannot use cars, taxis, buses, bicycles, or any other wheeled transport.

Your team must stay together. This means that your entire team must be at the same clue site at the same time, and must stay within sight and earshot of one another (generally no more than forty feet between you).

Half of your team cannot be around a corner, or down the block, and one or two members cannot sprint ahead of the others. You cannot communicate with teammates using cell phones unless you have become unintentionally separated. This also means that you cannot arrange to have someone at another location doing research for you.

You can use resources that exist independently of the treasure hunt, such as libraries, bookstores, and the internet, but you cannot arrange ahead of time to have someone provide information to your team, because they would be functioning as a team member who was not physically present. If someone on your team becomes separated, has to leave early or to stop for health or personal reasons, they can rejoin you later, but they cannot participate in the hunt by searching for clues while they are separated from the rest of your team.

Your entire team must be present when you turn in your Answer Sheet. The only exception is if someone leaves early.

You cannot move, destroy, or interfere with the answers at the clue locations.

You cannot guess or fill in something on the Answer Sheet without having visited the site. The point is to solve the clue and find the information. You must actually go to the site to receive credit for having solved the clue.

RESULTS:

A handout with the clue locations will be distributed at the conclusion of the hunt. Puzzle Master Jayson Wechter will explain the clues and announce the winners. The clue solutions and team scores will also be posted on the website (www.gametheoryacademy.org/oaklandtreasurehunt) as soon as possible after the event.