



Activity - Maze Challenge

Great for older youngsters and those looking for a more challenging session which encourages map reading and competition, this activity gives a chance to choose routes and practice keeping the map set.

What you need:

- 25 canes/stakes (anything upright will do!)
- Tape or string to create the walls of the maze
- 10 markers of any description to use as control points. In orienteering these are kites (see right) but you can also use cones, quoits, or whatever you have, and number them with a waterproof pen



 Printer to print out a few sets of the maps below. You can laminate and reuse these

How it works:

- You build two mazes which are mirror images of each other and set timed or head-to-head challenges during PE or breaktimes.
- Mazes can be completed as individuals or teams
- For each of the below four pairs of maps, Map 2 is the mirror-image of Map 1. The four courses A, B, C and D specify different sequences of controls on the same maze layout
- Assemble the maze from these maps for head-to-head competition you should set up two mazes next to each other, one the mirror image of the other.
- Stake out the square, leaving roughly 1.5m between each stake.
- Wind the tape or string between the bottom of the canes as designated on the map, and then repeat for the top of the canes.
- Select map A, B, C or D and place the control markers on the ground in the designated spots on the map, and secure if necessary.
- Ensure your competitors follow these rules:
 - You must visit control markers in numerical order
 - Runners must reach down and touch each marker there's no reaching through the tapes!
 - Any route between controls is permitted (inside or outside the maze), so long as runners don't go through the tapes

Skills children will practice:

Keeping the map 'set' (always oriented in the direction you are going)

- Mazes are useful and fun for people of all ages and any orienteering ability
- They help promote spatial awareness, swift decision making and problem-solving.

How children progress in the exercise:

 Have head to head races and try to beat your time. Then have a go at a different course.

What it looks like:



A maze can be created outside...



...or inside



It's fun for children of all ages...



...and we mean ALL ages!

Remember:

- To register your orienteering activities on the World Orienteering Day website www.worldorienteeringday.com - each year the event keeps breaking world records and we want you to be part of this!
- To share pics of your activity! #WODScotland ~ #WorldOrienteeringDay

Maze layouts:



