

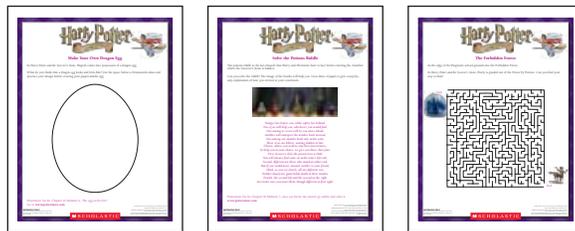
Harry Potter

READING CLUB



Dear Host,

Welcome back for another meeting of The Harry Potter Reading Club! Download these three exciting new activities at scholastic.com/hpreadingclub.



Activity 1: Make Your Own Dragon Egg

Hagrid's pet dragon, Norbert, was hatched from an egg that Hagrid won in a card game. To remind members of this event, have them read and discuss the passage from pages 231-233 of *Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone*.

For this activity, members will get a chance to make their own dragon eggs, using papier-mâché. (Note: Papier-mâché can take time to dry, so you may consider asking members to make the papier-mâché forms in advance and bring them in to paint and decorate at your meeting.)

Prepare ahead:

- 1) Photocopy one worksheet per member.
- 2) Gather supplies to make papier-mâché: balloons, newspaper (to tear into strips), water, flour, and dipping pans.
- 3) Have access to a sink and a drying area.
- 4) Bring in paint and paintbrushes, and any other craft supplies, such as glue and glitter, to help members personalize their dragon eggs.
- 5) Prepare a staging area for each step of the process.

During the activity:

- 1) Set out enough papier-mâché supplies for each member.
- 2) To make the papier-mâché: mix one-part flour to two-parts water and dip the newspaper strips into the mixture. Apply the strips to the surface of the blown-up balloon until the entire balloon is covered. Let dry.
- 3) When dry, have members pop their balloons and start painting and decorating their dragon eggs.
- 4) Suggest that members use the space on their worksheet to brainstorm design ideas. Encourage them to think creatively when decorating the eggs (e.g., eggs can be scaly, rough, smooth, or anything they like).

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Activity 2: Solve the Potions Riddle

The Sorcerer's Stone is protected by a series of magical traps to stop people from finding it. The last trap, a potions riddle, is solved by Hermione.

For this activity, members will work together in teams to solve the riddle themselves and explain their conclusions. If members get stuck, guide them by offering the hints provided below.

Prepare ahead:

- 1) Photocopy one worksheet per member.
- 2) Have plenty of pens or pencils available.
- 3) Provide copies of *Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone* for reference.

During the activity:

- 1) Have club members divide into teams or pairs.
- 2) Read the introduction aloud and explain the activity to the group.

Hints:

Lines 1 - 7 reveal the contents of the seven bottles: one bottle moves you forward, one bottle moves you backward, two bottles hold nettle wine, and three bottles contain poison.

Lines 8 - 16 reveal clues:

- To locate the nettle wine bottles: First, you must identify the bottles of poison. The smallest and largest bottles do not contain poison, so they either contain nettle wine or will help you move forward or backward.
- To identify the second bottle on the left and the second bottle on the right: These two bottles contain the same thing. Since the second bottle on the right is the largest, and we know that it is not poison, that means that the second bottle on the left is also not poison, and therefore, nettle wine.
- To locate the poison bottles: Now that we know where the nettle wine is, we know that the poison bottles are on the left side of the nettle wines.
- To identify the third, fourth, and last bottles from the left: Since we know that the first bottle on the left is poison, the first bottle on the right must be the potion that helps you move backward. The bottle that helps you move forward is the smallest and third one from the left.

Activity 3: The Forbidden Forest

Hogwarts students are prohibited from entering the Forbidden Forest. When Harry is lost in the Forest in *Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone*, a centaur named Firenze is the only one who can lead him out safely.

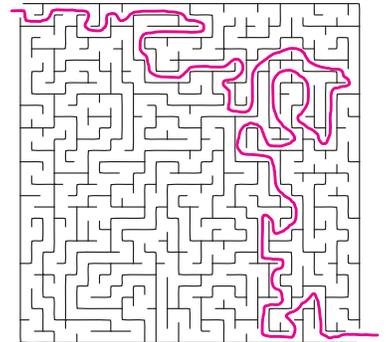
For this activity, members will have to wind their way through a thorny maze to reach Firenze—and find their way out of the Forest.

Prepare ahead:

- 1) Photocopy one worksheet per member.
- 2) Have pens or pencils on hand.

During the activity:

- 1) Read the introduction aloud to the group and let members get to work.
- 2) To make the activity more challenging, have members compete to see who can finish the maze first.



DECEMBER/JANUARY BONUS TRIVIA QUESTION:

Name the four animals on the Hogwarts seal.

Answer: A lion, an eagle, a badger, and a snake

Share the fun from your club meetings by tweeting about your most successful activities #hpREADS. We'll select a favorite to feature on our site.

If you're new to the club, check out the **Welcome Kit** to print bookmarks, nametags, and useful tips for managing your club. Or, if your club has just finished reading one of the Harry Potter books, and you'd like to engage on an even deeper level, be sure to check out the Discussion Guide for that book. You'll find everything you need on scholastic.com/hpreadingclub.

Yours sincerely,

The Harry Potter Reading Club

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