

Lock Box Suggestions, Ideas, Materials, and Cost Estimates

Resources & materials: <https://www.weareteachers.com/classroom-escape-room-supplies/>
<https://www.breakoutedu.com/>

The items below are all on Amazon –
 you may find cheaper options elsewhere.

	Vaultz Medicine Case with Combination Lock	\$9.84		Master Lock 1500iD Set Your Own Directional Combination	\$11.49
	Medication Zipper Hood Security Bag	8.99		Hyamass Vintage Antique Style Mini Archaize Padlocks Key Lock with Keys (pack of 3)	7.99
	Jssmst Small Locking Cash Box with Money Tray	10.95		Puroma Combination Lock 4 Digit Padlock (pack of 2)	9.99
	EVERTOP Jewelry Box	9.99		Wordlock PL-004-BK 5-Dial Combination Padlock	8.99
	Waterloo Portable Series Tool Box	10.99		Master Lock 1535DWD Set Your Own Word Combination Padlock	6.96
	Stack-On GMR-13 13-Inch Multi-Purpose Handy Storage Box	11.77		Master Lock 1534D Password Plus Combination Lock	7.98
	Plano 131252 Dry Storage Emergency Marine Box	9.18		Master Lock 646T Set Your Own Combination Luggage Lock	7.99
	MALEDEN Invisible Ink Pen, Spy Pen with UV Light Magic Marker (pack of 16)	9.99		Brady Steel Lockout Hasp	4.54
	UV Flashlight Blacklight, TuGu 12 LEDs Ultraviolet Black Light Flashlight	8.99		TaoTronics Black Light, UV Blacklight Flashlights (free AAA batteries)	8.99

Creating Clues:

Remember that, while this exercise is meant to build team cohesion, it should also teach participants something about their job or agency that they might not know or remember. Be creative!

1. Do searches online for riddles or brain teasers, crossword puzzle generators, or Morse code.
 Crossword generator: <https://worksheets.theteacherscorner.net/make-your-own/crossword/>
2. Collect fun facts about the individuals within the office and use those clues for the crossword.
3. Collect fun facts about your office or agency history.
4. Use relevant Child Support clues – like UIFSA for the alpha lock (or some acronym that’s used in your state or office),
5. Combine dates (like, when did government child support begin in your state + how many CS offices are in your state = 1974 and 15 = clue for a 4-digit number lock of 7415).
6. Be creative and don’t worry too much about a couple harder clues – it needs to be a bit of a challenge. Just remember, you can walk around and offer clues if people are getting stuck or frustrated.
7. You can even throw in something that has nothing to do with solving the puzzles – like taking pictures of some peoples’ office space, printing them on a piece of paper and asking, “whose office is this?”

Instructions to participants:

- Idea is that you need to follow the clues to get into the boxes. You may have to think outside the box and be creative to solve the problems, clues, riddles that will lead you to the prize.
- By the way, if you finish first you get bragging rights, but this isn't a competition, it's just a test of whether your team can work together to solve the puzzle.
- Each group also gets three poker chips and you can use these for clues. So, if you really run up against a wall, give me a chip, ask your question, and I'll give you – not the answer, but another helpful clue.
- You can use whatever source of information you can think of, nothing is off limits.

Reminders:

- Probably the best size for each team is 4-6 members.
- Don't forget to fill the last box with prizes! That's the reward for solving all the puzzles, and team members can figure out how they want to divvy up their spoils!
- If you can, do a run-through before the actual activity – that way you have a chance to find problems or mistakes.

Post- Activity Discussion:

- How did you contribute to your team?
- How did your group utilize each individual's strengths?
- Did leaders emerge within the group?
- What puzzles did you or your group members find the most difficult to solve?
- Describe how another member of your team exemplified collaboration.
- Share your funny stories!