Amazon Adventure Day

the complete parent guide — every minute, explained

Never run an adventure day before? Perfect — this guide assumes exactly that. Five pages, every activity broken into steps, every supply linked. You've got this.

The Day at a Glance *≈ 4½ hours · suggested clock times*

9:00	Boarding call — passports, plane, rain shower	p. 2
9:10	The documentary (first!) — deep into the Amazon	p. 2
10:00	Trivia — Jaguars vs. Anacondas	p. 2
10:20	Seed-mosaic studio — clay + beans	p. 3
11:00	Treasure hunt + geode cracking	p. 3
11:45	The jungle feast — skewers & coconut	p. 4
12:45	The movie (last!) — The Jungle Book	p. 5

The Night Before *10 quiet minutes of prep = a smooth morning*

- [ ] Shop everything on the list below (one Amazon cart + one grocery run).
- [ ] Hide the treasure chest and tape the key somewhere sneaky. Draw the map!
- [ ] Freeze mango + banana chunks for smoothie bowls. Queue the documentary on the TV.
- [ ] Hide the art and treasure supplies — the reveal is half the magic.
- [ ] Stack plain paper + stapler for passports; fill a spray bottle for the rain.

Shop It All *tap the gold links — one cart, done*

ART — air-dry clay (Crayola 5 lb) · a 16-bean variety mix (every mosaic color in one bag) · paper plates & toothpicks.

TREASURE — wooden treasure chest (any wooden box or shoebox works too!) · geodes: Nat Geo 15-kit (goggles incl.) or 25-pack Moroccan geodes. Old sock + hammer + safety glasses from the garage.

DECOR (optional) — rainforest backdrop (20×10 ft) · gather every houseplant · green bulb if you have one. WATCH — "Unseen Amazon" (free, YouTube) · The Jungle Book (Disney+). GROCERIES — full list with the recipe on page 4.

THE GOLDEN RULE

You don't have to do it all. One activity done with your full attention beats seven done in a rush — pick what sparks joy, skip the rest, and let the movie carry the afternoon.

Takeoff, Documentary & Trivia

first the flight, then the film, then the showdown

Boarding Call *9:00 · 10 minutes*

1. **Grab the passports**
   Your explorer's official passport booklet arrived by mail from the school — the little blue one with gold letters, ready and waiting. Extra explorers joining? Fold 2 sheets of paper, staple the fold: instant passport.
2. **You're the captain**
   Best captain voice: “Flight 19 to the Amazon, now boarding!” Everyone shows their passport. Seatbelts (imaginary) on.
3. **Fly, land — and RAIN**
   Play the documentary's opening minute as your window view. On touchdown, mist the spray bottle over their heads — rainforest rain! Stamp every passport — cut-out stamps are on the last page.

The Documentary *9:10 · 50 min · the MORNING film — the movie comes at the end!*

1. **Press play**
   “Unseen Amazon: Inside the World's Most Dangerous Rainforest” — the exact film our explorers watched. Blanket fort strongly encouraged.
   □ Watch it free on YouTube: Unseen Amazon (4K travel documentary)
2. **Pause twice**
   Ask: “Which layer of the forest would YOU live in?” and “What's the most dangerous thing so far?” Wiggly kids can draw jungle animals while they watch.
3. **Your secret job**
   While it plays, jot 8 quick questions from the film. That's your trivia — written for you, by the movie.

Trivia Showdown *10:00 · 15 minutes*

1. **Team Jaguar vs. Team Anaconda**
   Mix the ages so it's fair. Teams huddle and answer together.
2. **Ask your 8 questions**
   Alternate teams; wrong answers can be stolen. Keep score big and dramatic.
3. **Name the prize NOW**
   Winners crack the coconut at the feast and get first serve. Announcing the prize before you start doubles the effort.

IF YOU ONLY REMEMBER ONE THING

The spray-bottle rain shower is the moment they'll talk about at dinner. Commit to the bit.

Mosaics & Buried Treasure

the messy, thrilling middle of the day

Seed-Mosaic Studio *10:20 · 30 min + drying*

1. **Set the table (5 min)**
   Trash bags or an old sheet down. Per kid: a fist of clay on a paper plate, a toothpick. Pour the bean mix into little bowls, sorted by color — sorting is half the fun.
2. **Flatten or sculpt**
   A palm-sized disc as thick as a finger — or go 3D: snakes, faces, and little pots all work beautifully.
3. **Sketch, then press**
   Toothpick-sketch a design (sun, snake, jaguar face), then press each bean HALFWAY in so it locks when dry. Middle out.
4. **Tell them why**
   Indigenous Amazonian artists have made seed art for generations — your explorers are joining a very old tradition.
5. **Dry in the sun**
   24–48 hours flat. Set them outside like a gallery — the drying line IS the display.

The Treasure Hunt *11:00 · 30 min incl. geodes*

1. **The setup was last night**
   Chest hidden (any wooden box or shoebox works), key taped somewhere sneaky, map drawn. Now write two rhyming clues: one to the key, one to the □. Ours went like: “Where water tumbles, cool and free — look under the roof to find the key.”
2. **Earn every clue**
   Gate each clue behind three trivia answers from the film. No answers, no clue.
3. **Hunt!**
   Map in hand, key first, then dig. Golden rule: the chest comes back UNOPENED — everyone gathers before the big reveal.
4. **Crack the geodes**
   Wrap each geode in the old sock, safety glasses on, firm hammer tap. Real crystals, every time. Grown-up supervises.
5. **Treasure picking**
   Everyone chooses a crystal to keep — oldest picks last, a quiet little lesson in generosity.

READY-MADE CLUES · STEAL THESE WORD-FOR-WORD

Key: “Where shoes line up beside the door, a shiny key waits on the floor.” · Chest (outside): “Ten giant steps from the biggest tree — dig where the □ says treasure be.” · Chest (inside): “Under the place you lay your head, tonight the treasure sleeps instead.”

The Jungle Feast

kid jobs, grown-up jobs — cook it together

Groceries *serves 4*

- [ ] 1½ lb chicken thighs
- [ ] 1 bell pepper
- [ ] 1 fresh pineapple
- [ ] wooden skewers
- [ ] olive oil + 1 lime
- [ ] 2 garlic cloves + cumin
- [ ] white rice
- [ ] 1 whole coconut
- [ ] frozen mango + banana
- [ ] bananas, mango, melon
- [ ] shredded coconut (topping)

The Fruit Mountain

Kids build the centerpiece: pineapple crown up, coconuts at the base, bananas and mango tumbling down the sides. The jungle provides — and it doubles as dessert.

Passport stamps: print the stamp sheet on the last page — one per explorer.

Cook It Together

1. **KIDS · build the skewers**
   Grown-up cubes the chicken; kids toss it 20 min in olive oil, lime, garlic, cumin, salt — then thread chicken + pepper + pineapple onto skewers. Little hands love this part.
2. **GROWN-UP · broil**
   12–14 minutes, turning once, until cooked through (165°F). Meanwhile: rice — 1 cup rice, 1½ cups water, boil, cover on low 15 min, rest 10, no peeking.
3. **KIDS · canopy smoothie bowls**
   Blend frozen mango + banana with a splash of juice until thick and scoopable. Everyone decorates their own with fruit and shredded coconut.
4. **TOGETHER · the coconut ceremony**
   Grown-up twists a screwdriver into two of the coconut's "eyes"; kids taste the water. Then tap around the middle with a hammer, rotating, until it splits — trivia winners crack it and serve first!
5. **TOGETHER · feast in the jungle**
   Eat surrounded by the plants and the backdrop, skewers off the stick, fruit off the mountain. Raise your cups: "to the Amazon!"

KID-FRIENDLY RULE

Every explorer gets one real job with a real knife-free tool: threading, blending, decorating, tasting. Ownership is the secret seasoning.

Movie Time

the documentary opened the day — The Jungle Book closes it

The Jungle Book

78 MIN · DISNEY+ · THE CLOSING FILM

How to Land the Ending *the day's reward — savor it*

1. **Build the den**
   Blankets, pillows, every stuffed animal in the house. The mosaic gallery dries nearby; the jungle backdrop is the fourth wall.
2. **Snacks from the mountain**
   Leftover fruit + popcorn. Coconut pieces for the brave.
3. **Lights out, jungle on**
   One minute of quiet before pressing play — listen for birds. Then: Mowgli.
4. **The whisper**
   When the rain falls on screen, lean over: “you made your own rain today.”
5. **While the credits roll**
   Passports out — check today's stamp, and ask: which stop was your favorite? (Their answers are better than any review.)

WHY THE ORDER MATTERS

Documentary first fills their heads with the real Amazon — so when the movie plays, they recognize the world. Facts in the morning, wonder at night.

Passport Stamp Sheet

one stamp per explorer, glued in on touchdown

Print this page (plain paper is perfect), cut along the dotted circles, and glue a stamp into your explorer's official passport booklet when the plane lands. Then write the date of YOUR adventure on the stamp's little line — every family's stamp gets its own date. One per explorer; print again if the expedition grows.

Grown-up tip: cutting these is a great quiet job for an early riser while you make coffee.