French’s Ledges

Plainfield, NH
Physical Difficulty: Moderate
Special Features: Natural, Vista
Duration: 1:00
Bring: Binoculars, field guide

To get there: Take Route 120 about 3.5 miles south of Lebanon and make a right onto Main Street (Colby Hill) in Meriden. Make a left in about 1 mile onto Columbus Jordan Road. Go almost 2 miles to a pulloff. The trail will be on your left.

Clues:
There’s a sign you can find on the tree near the trail.

Be polite, there could be a bee in a tipped-over tree.

Follow the blue marks on the trees. Climb up the rocks on your hands and knees. Get to the top and feel the breeze.

Near the top, Blue blazes stop. Follow red today A new sign points the way.

When you get to the top, annoy the fox. Slide down the rocks, then find the box.

How? Get to the tippy top, where there grows more pine than flower. Now point one arm to the school and one to the radio tower. With your hands outstretched as such,
Where does your shining face point? Walk that way a touch—

Specifically...fifty paces. Now close in on your search,
For your treasure: look to the lowest perch.
At the base of a rock-rooted pine, find a rock cavity,
a miniature ledge, if you will: follow gravity.

Do you see your treasure, tucked in there?
It might make a good home for a hare—
A stone dwelling to spare it winter’s gusts,
Have you found it? By now, you must!

Going down, when red changes to blue,
The Columbus Jordan Road Trailhead is for you.
If you miss it and go too far,
Go back and find the blue trail, or you won’t find your car!

*Quest created by Betsy Rybeck Lynd’s second grade class in 1997. Updated in 2018.*

**REMEMBER:** Please be a good steward of the land; leave it better than you found it and pack out any trash you find.

*Valley Quest is a collection of treasure hunts that share and teach the natural gems and cultural heritage of the Upper Valley with children, families, adults, and visitors. It is a program of Vital Communities, a regional non-profit organization serving the Upper Valley Region. For more information about Valley Quest please check our website: [www.vitalcommunities.org](http://www.vitalcommunities.org). You can call us at 802-291-9100 or email valleyquest@vitalcommunities.org.*