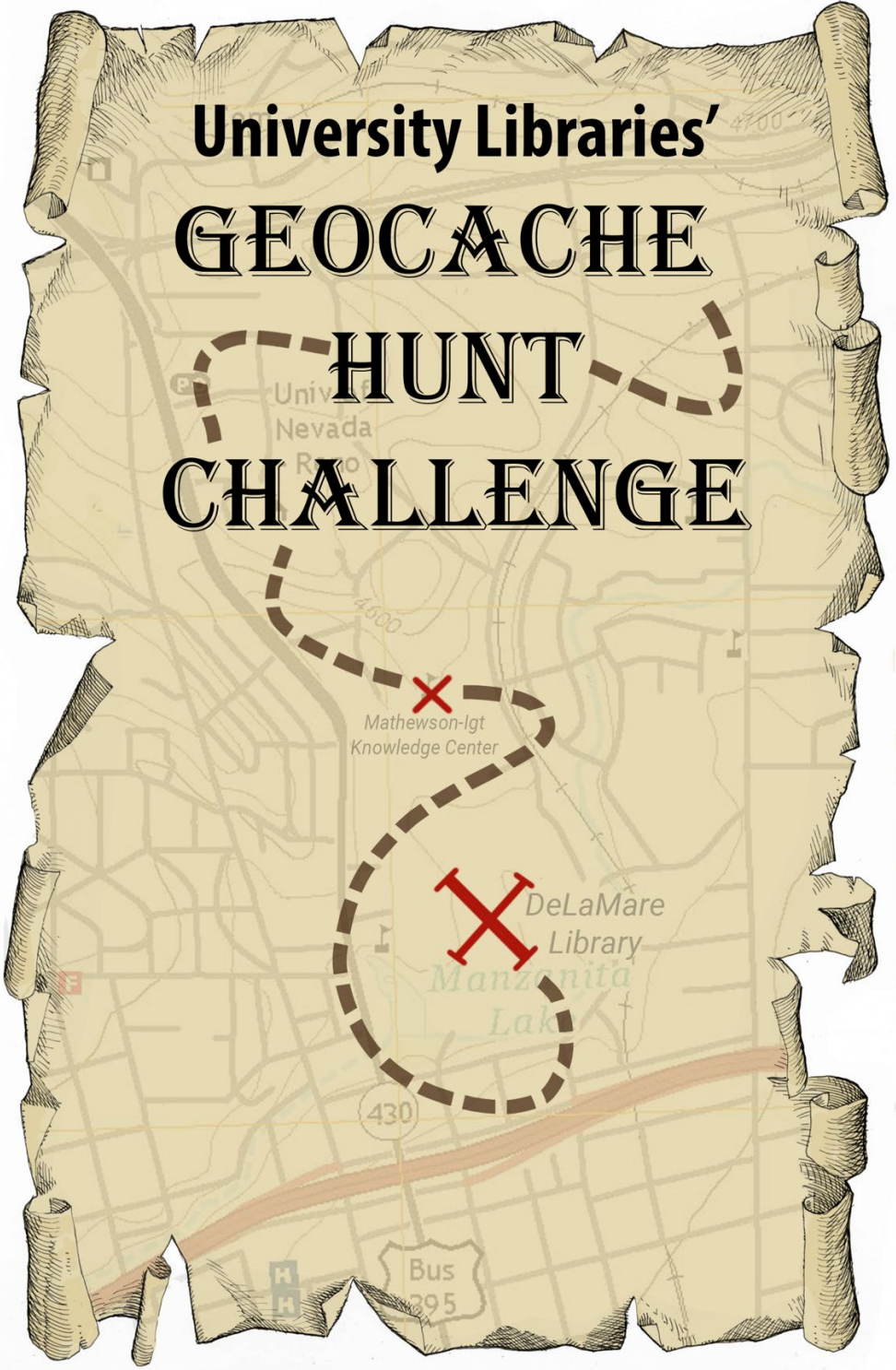




University Libraries' GEOCACHE HUNT CHALLENGE

The Libraries **GEOCACHE HUNT CHALLENGE** is based on the International Geocaching activity, "a real-world, outdoor treasure hunting game" where you get a location and clues to a hidden object and set out to find it!

#NVFamilyWeekend2026

#LibrariesGeocacheHunt

The Basics:

What is a Cache?

A cache is a container that is camouflaged and hidden out of sight. The container has items such as a logbook to record who found it and items to trade or collect.

What is a Cacheport?

A Cacheport is like a passport for the Treasure Hunt! This booklet has all the information you need to find and locate each cache and information about each cache location.

How to Play

1. Pick a cache from the Cacheport read its description, and head to its location.
 - a. Read the description, coordinates, and hints to get a sense of where the hidden cache is located.
 - b. If you want, use a GPS or Map app on your phone (WAZE, Apple Maps, Google Maps, or MapQuest) to help you. Enter the coordinates of the geocache and let it direct you to the cache spot.
2. The cache will be hidden, so keep an eye out and look all around the area!

3. Caches can come in all shapes and sizes and maybe even camouflaged, magnetic, or hidden inside or under another item like a birdhouse or stone on the ground.
4. Once you find the cache, **sign the logbook with your name and date**. Jot down the letter inside, too! Then take one of the sweet swags inside. Try to find all eight!
5. Seal up the container nice and tight, and place it back where you found it for the next person.

What to Bring

- Your cacheport booklet and your phone or GPS. Be sure it's charged!
- A pen or pencil to sign logbooks!
- Sunscreen and water (for daytime hunts) or a flashlight/headlamp (for nighttime)
- Please take proper precautions and be safe if searching in the dark.

Etiquette for Cache Finders

- To avoid tipping off others to the location, carefully remove the cache and then move away to examine its contents.
- Write down your name in the logbook.
- Take one piece of swag per person.
- Carefully seal the cache with all the original contents you found inside and hide it exactly as you found it. Don't try to make it easier or harder for the next person to find.
- Share your geocaching stories and photos online!
- #LibrariesGeocacheHunt on social media
- If something is wrong with a cache (no swag, log is missing/full, etc.), please contact the DeLaMare Library staff at (775) 784-6945 or dlmlib@unr.edu

Want to find more Geocaches across campus?
Download the app at [Geocaching.com](https://www.geocaching.com) and find more!

Install the SafeApp for campus alerts and messages!

Cache # 1

Cache Name: The Silver Legacy

Cache By: DeLaMare Library

Coordinates: 39.539258, -119.814316

Cache Description:

Welcome to one of the most recognizable landmarks connected to Nevada's mining history. John William Mackay was one of the famous "Big Four" mining entrepreneurs whose success in the Comstock Lode helped shape the development of Nevada and the University of Nevada. The Mackay School of Mines, established in 1908, remains one of the oldest mining schools in the western United States and continues to educate engineers, geologists, and scientists who solve real-world challenges.

Today, the Mackay Mines Building is home to the Mackay School administration, the W.M. Keck Earth Science and Mineral Engineering Museum, and DeLaMare Library. Within DeLaMare, students and researchers have access to specialized collections and services including the Mary B. Ansari Map Library, GIS and geospatial support, research services, a makerspace, poster printing, and extensive collections in mining, engineering, earth sciences, geography, and technology.

As you explore this historic corner of campus, take a moment to appreciate how discoveries buried deep underground helped build the university community that surrounds you. From Nevada's mining heritage to today's cutting-edge research, Mackay Mines continues to connect the past with the future.

Additional hint:

ZNPNXL VF YBBXVAT GUR JEBAT JNL

Decryption Key

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M
N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z

Letter above equals the letter below and vice versa

Cache # 2

Cache Name: The Isolated Giant

Cache By: DLM Library

Coordinates: 39.539464, -119.814726

Cache Description:

Most buildings stand directly on their foundations. Mackay Mines is different, it's floating.

Following extensive restoration work in the 1990s, the historic structure was placed on dozens of rubber isolation bearings designed to help protect it during earthquakes. This innovative engineering solution preserved one of the University's most treasured landmarks while allowing it to continue serving students and researchers.

Mackay Mines is widely recognized as one of the first historic buildings in the world to undergo a base-isolation retrofit and the first historic masonry building in the United States to be preserved using this technology. As you search nearby, look closely at the metal "skirt" surrounding the base of the building. This visible gap provides room for the structure to move during a major earthquake. In fact, the building can shift as much as two feet without striking the surrounding walkways.

As you search nearby, imagine the engineering challenge of lifting an entire historic building and placing it on a system designed to move with the earth. More than a century after its construction, Mackay Mines continues to stand as a remarkable example of how engineering can protect the past while preparing for the future.

Additional hint:

VA N FRN BS EBPXF, BAR VF QVSSRERAG

Decryption Key

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M
N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z

Letter above equals the letter below and vice versa

Cache # 3

Cache Name: Ref the World

Cache By: Research and Instructional Services (RIS)

Coordinates: 39.543509, -119.815343

Cache Description:

Research and Instructional Services assists students and faculty with the discovery, evaluation, and use of information. Our unit:

- Teaches information literacy and research skills through a range of in-person and online instructional services
- Offers assistance with research projects, systematic reviews, scholarly publishing, and more

Hop on chat, drop in or schedule a consultation with us for all your research needs!

Access dependent on Library hours: [UNR Libraries Hours](#)

Additional hint:

gur EVF-yref ubyq gur xrl
erfrnepu uryc naq vadhvevrf
pbzr naq frf

Decryption Key

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M
N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z

Letter above equals the letter below and vice versa

Cache # 4

Cache Name: Blast from the Past

Cache By: Special Collections and University Archives

Coordinates: 39.543616, -119.815387

Cache Description:

Special Collections and University Archives are where you'll find the materials that are old, rare, extra valuable, or in unusual formats. All are welcome through the big bronze doors, whether for assignments, personal enjoyment, or an extra-nerdy afternoon date!

We specialize in the history of this geographic region, but also have books on witchcraft and demonology, medieval manuscripts, and a trophy shaped like a dancing miner. You never know what you'll find - photos of a cat "playing" a bugle? Check. Ancient Sumerian cuneiform tablets? Also check. The lost tooth of the last elephant to perform at the Nugget Casino? We've got it. Why not come take a look?

Access dependent on Library hours: [UNR Libraries Hours](#)

Additional hint:

SVAD GUR YNQVRF

Decryption Key

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M
N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z

Letter above equals the letter below and vice versa

Cache # 5

Cache Name: Stone Stories

Cache By: Jon Bilbao Basque Library

Coordinates: 39.544056, -119.815845

Cache Description:

The carvings Basque sheepherders left on aspen trees, known as arborglyphs, offer a lasting record of their lives; similarly, libraries and archives preserve stories, photographs, documents, and memories that help us understand the past. The Jon Bilbao Basque Library is home to one of the world's largest collections of Basque-related materials, containing more than 55,000 volumes and archival collections documenting Basque history, culture, and the Basque diaspora. From the Basque Country to Nevada and beyond, these records tell the stories of migration, community, and cultural heritage. This cache hides among stone, but the stories it represents have traveled much farther.

Access dependent on Library hours: [UNR Libraries Hours](#)

Additional hint:

Knowledge is kept inside the library. This cache prefers the landscape outside.

Decode this!

Abg rirel ebpx vf jung vg nccrnef gb or

Decryption Key

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M
N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z

Letter above equals the letter below and vice versa

Cache # 6

Cache Name: Novel Newcomers

Cache By: Access Services

Coordinates: 39.5436052, -119.8153097

Cache Description:

Access Services manages a variety of public-facing services for students, faculty, staff and members of the community. Located on the second floor of The Knowledge Center, this is where you can check out books, course reserves, and other study materials such as dry-erase markers, calculators and headphones. If you are trying to find a particular book, curious about checking out a locker for the semester, or are having trouble with printing, we at Access Services are here to help!

Access dependent on Library hours: [UNR Libraries Hours](#)

Additional hint:

Not all of our books are in MARS! We have over half a million books shelved throughout the building and are adding new items to our collection all the time!

ARJ NEEVNYF

Decryption Key

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M
N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z

Letter above equals the letter below and vice versa

Cache # 7

Cache Name: *Digging the Good Stuff*

Cache By: Counseling Services

Coordinates: 39.39328, -119.86601

Cache Description:

Somewhere among the places where good thoughts are planted, something else has quietly taken root. Not everything that looks like a simple reminder is exactly what it seems, and the path to this cache may require you to look beyond the obvious. Words of encouragement have been scattered about for a reason, but sometimes the most important message is the one that is not immediately visible.

Take your time, trust your instincts, and let positivity guide your search. When you find the right collection of reminders, consider what might be resting beneath them rather than simply admiring the words above. A little curiosity, a willingness to look closer, and perhaps a gentle rearrangement of inspiration may reveal what has been waiting there all along. Happy hunting, and remember: you are closer than you think!

Additional hint:

CNVAGRQ EBPXF

Decryption Key

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M
N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z

Letter above equals the letter below and vice versa

Cache # 8

Cache Name: The Grad Stash

Cache By: Graduate Student Association (GSA)

Coordinates: 39.544424, -119.816343

Cache Description:

The Graduate Student Association (GSA) has represented graduate students at the University of Nevada, Reno since 1966, advocating for their interests and supporting their experience at the University. But Nevada's graduate story began decades earlier with pioneers like Effie Mona Mack, the first woman to earn a graduate degree from the University of Nevada, Reno. Her achievement marked an important milestone for graduate education and for women in scholarship at Nevada.

Mack's graduate research examined William Morris Stewart (1827-1909), a gold miner who became a prominent and often controversial Nevada political figure. Today, GSA continues the legacy begun by graduate pioneers like Mack, supporting new generations of students as they pursue their own research and discoveries. As you search for this cache, you're following in the footsteps of a person who helped begin Nevada's graduate story.

Our office, located in the Joe Crowley Student Union, offers a range of resources and services designed to promote graduate student support. From our travel grants, spring awards program, and over all student advocacy we seek to improve the graduate student experience. We invite you to explore the many resources and services we provide!

Additional hint:

Guvf cynag unf zber guna ebbgf gb uvqr

Decryption Key

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M
N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z

Letter above equals the letter below and vice versa

Think you're quick? The first 10 players to find all the caches can win a special prize!

Each cache has a letter taped somewhere inside it. Record each letter and put it in the order below to unscramble the codeword.

_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
5	8	2	1	7	6	3	4

Next, message us on Instagram @delamarellibrary or email us at dlmlib@unr.edu with the code word you unscrambled. The first 10 messages with correct answers will be contacted later with their prize information!

Thank you to departments who participated in this event!

The University Libraries at the University of Nevada, Reno.

Insta, FB - @unevadalibraries

Twitter - @unevadalib

DeLaMare Science & Engineering Library

Insta - @delamarellibrary

FB - @dlmlib

Jon Bilbao Basque Library

(Take the elevator/staircase next to Bytes/Pete's to the 3rd floor in the Knowledge Center)

FB - @BasqueLibrary

Special Collections & University Archives

(3rd floor of the Knowledge Center)

Twitter, Insta - @unrspc

FB - @UNRSpecialCollections

Graduate Student Association (GSA)

Insta - @nevadagsa

Counseling Services

Insta - @unrcounselingservices