

# TABLETOP ROLE-PLAYING GAMES: ONE-SHOT ADVENTURES

## AGES

TEENS/TWEENS

## PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Have you considered a tabletop role playing game (TTRPG) for your library but think Dungeons and Dragons is too complex for your audience? This program provides a list of games in which creating characters and one-shot adventure gameplay is much easier. This program is also easily run virtually using Discord. Suggested runtime: 60–120 min.



Image source: Shutterstock

### TIP:

There is a teen/tween version of Pathfinder with hosts who have been taught to run one-shot campaigns for kids.

### TIP:

Local comic book stores or schools with D&D clubs may offer help in setting up games in the library. You could also ask teens familiar with role-playing games who need volunteer hours to lead the program. If you don't have assistance from avid role-players, be sure to go through a practice run of the game to make sure it plays smoothly.

### TIP:

You can also find free one-shot D&D campaigns about the high seas on websites such as Wizards of the Coast. The Missing Misty Mermaid is a campaign to consider: <https://bit.ly/3vuuHkp>. An experienced Dungeon Master can introduce the ins and outs of this team-oriented role-playing game.

## MATERIALS AND PREPARATION

Simplified table top role-playing games (TTRPG) to consider:

- Pathfinder
- Starport
- Cats of Catthulhu
- No Thank You, Evil
- Lasers and Feelings
- Kids on Bikes
- Amazing Tales
- Bubblegumshoe
- Pugmire/Monarchies of Mau

Registration is very important for role-playing games to make sure you do not have too many (or too few) players. Before you open registration, develop a list of characters that participants can sign up to play. This saves a lot of time.

Materials for D&D diehards:

- An adventure/campaign
- A dungeon master
- Pre-generated character sheets
- D&D 5E Combat Actions Cheat Sheet: <https://bit.ly/3fqfBqp>
- Paper and pencil
- One set of dice: D4, D6, D8, D10, D12 and D20 (in-person program)
- A Discord or Zoom room with a screen sharing option (virtual program)
- Microphone (virtual program)
- Virtual dice roller (virtual program)

## UNIQUE SPACE AND/OR PERSONNEL NEEDS

Solo-librarian friendly. If possible, enlist a teen volunteer who is an avid role player.

### TIP:

Check app stores for downloadable dice rollers.

## RESOURCES

### Web

D&D Beyond: <https://www.dndbeyond.com/>

Discord: <https://discord.com/>

Dungeon Masters Guild: <https://www.dmsguild.com/>

Character sheet generator from *Fast Character*:  
<http://www.fastcharacter.com/>

“Dungeons & Dragons Dice Roller” from Wizards: <https://bit.ly/2Toy6mM>

“The Missing Misty Mermaid” from *Dungeon Master’s Guild*:  
<https://bit.ly/3hYzxT9>

### Books

#### Fiction

*A Wizard of Earthsea* (1968) by Ursula K. Le Guin (YA)

*Dark Shores* (2019) by Danielle L. Jensen (YA)

*Seafire* (2018) by Natalie C. Parker (YA)

*The Soul Keepers* (2018) by Devon Taylor (YA)

*The Mermaid, the Witch, and the Sea* (2020) by Maggie Tokuda-Hall (YA)

#### Non-fiction

*Dungeons and Dragons Player’s Handbook* 5th Edition (2014) (YA/adult)