Escape Room Project Rubric – The Hawthorne Mystery

This rubric is designed to assess student performance on the 'Secrets of Willow Creek: A Mystery Room Challenge' activity.

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| Criteria | 4 – Excellent | 3 – Good | 2 – Needs Improvement | 1 – Incomplete |
| Connection to Story | Escape room clearly incorporates events, characters, and themes from the book with strong textual references. | Good use of story elements with minor gaps or general references. | Limited connection to the book with weak or unclear story links. | Little to no connection to the book’s plot or characters. |
| Creativity & Design | Highly creative puzzles and setup with original ideas and detailed presentation. | Creative elements present; setup is engaging but lacks polish. | Some creative effort, but presentation is basic or underdeveloped. | Minimal creativity or incomplete design. |
| Puzzle Quality | Puzzles are challenging, solvable, and varied; demonstrate high effort and thought. | Puzzles are mostly clear and solvable with moderate variety. | Puzzles are simplistic or confusing; some lack logical solutions. | Puzzles are missing or non-functional. |
| Team Collaboration | Group worked exceptionally well together; all members contributed equally. | Group worked well with occasional uneven participation. | Group had some difficulty collaborating; noticeable imbalance. | Little evidence of teamwork; one or two people did most of the work. |
| Presentation & Explanation | Presented clearly and confidently; explained puzzles and story well. | Presentation was mostly clear with some minor confusion. | Presentation was hard to follow or lacked detail. | Presentation was missing or unclear. |