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Moscow WWII Museum Plans Military-Patriotic New Year's Games For Children

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The Victory Museum, one of the largest museums of military history in Russia, has announced it will ring in the New Year by hosting a series of patriotic, World War II-themed games for children.

The game, called Protect New Year, will require its participants between 6 and 12 years old to "overcome dark forces" that have "raised their heads again and want to turn history back" — an apparent reference to Russia's ongoing military offensive against what it calls "Nazis" in Ukraine.

According to the museum's website, participating children "will have to find a way out of a tangled labyrinth, bypass booby traps" and "much more."

"Having overcome all these obstacles, everyone will become a real defender of the Motherland!"

Last month, dozens of cities across Russia announced plans to scale back or cancel their New Year's Eve celebrations — the most festive holiday of the year in Russia — and use the funds to send aid to Russian soldiers and their families.

Russian authorities have been working to implement "military-patriotic" education for children and teens for several years.

This year, the Education Ministry introduced mandatory classroom discussions designed to foster patriotism into the national school curriculum.

The lessons — called “important conversations” — will include discussions about the war in Ukraine, which Moscow refers to as a “special military operation,” Education Minister Sergei Kravtsov said in September.

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