



## 52 Free Activities for You and Your Mentee in the Portland Metro Area

*One adventure for each week of the year!*

### WINTER

1. Walk or drive down Peacock Lane for two weeks in December and view the beautiful holiday decorations lighting up each house in the neighborhood ([www.peacocklane.net](http://www.peacocklane.net))
2. Take your mentee to First Friday at the Portland Children's Museum where they're admitted free each month between 5 p.m. and 8 p.m. ([www.portlandcm.org](http://www.portlandcm.org))
3. Check out cultural passes at all Washington and Clackamas County libraries that offer discounts to many great local attractions
  - o Clackamas County - <http://lincc.lincc.lib.or.us/cp/cp-policy.html>
  - o Washington County - [http://www.wccls.org/lending\\_library/cultural\\_pass](http://www.wccls.org/lending_library/cultural_pass)
4. Browse one of Powell's local bookstores and discuss your favorite stories with your mentee (<http://www.powells.com/info/storeinformation.html?header=Stores%20and%20Events>)
5. Explore the world of art at the Portland Art Museum where kids under 17 are always admitted free ([www.pam.org](http://www.pam.org))
6. Play board, card or video games together
7. Go to a book signing or author reading at your local bookstore:
  - Powell's – [www.powells.com](http://www.powells.com)
  - Borders – [www.borders.com](http://www.borders.com)
  - Barnes & Noble – [www.barnesandnoble.com](http://www.barnesandnoble.com)
8. Sign up for free library cards in most areas surrounding the Portland metro area and share your favorite books (<http://www.multcolib.org/catalog/card/cardnew.html>)
9. Volunteer for a local service project through one of hundreds of events from Hands On Greater Portland (browse the calendar of possibilities at [www.handsonportland.org](http://www.handsonportland.org))
10. Participate in FREE outdoor and in store events with REI - locations in NW Portland, Clackamas, Hillsboro and Tualatin (<http://www.rei.com/map/store#OR>)
11. Give your mentee a tour of your job or workplace and explain what you do each day
12. Take advantage of free tickets to Blazer games and other Rose Garden events as part of an Oregon Mentors registered program. Your program staff will contact you as opportunities become available
13. Tour the Oregon Humane Society and meet some great pets up for adoption ([www.oregonhumane.org](http://www.oregonhumane.org))

### SPRING

14. Discover what vendors at the Portland Saturday Market have to offer from March through December each year ([www.portlandsaturdaymarket.com](http://www.portlandsaturdaymarket.com))
15. Visit Washington Park and wander through the International Rose Test Garden ([www.washingtonparkpdx.org](http://www.washingtonparkpdx.org))
16. Take an adventure to the Pirate Ship Play Park on N.W. Graf Street in the Bethany area of Beaverton/Portland (For directions visit [http://www.cpo1friends.org/index2.php?option=com\\_content&do\\_pdf=1&id=130](http://www.cpo1friends.org/index2.php?option=com_content&do_pdf=1&id=130))
17. Ride your bicycles or walk around the Portland Waterfront (<http://www.portlandonline.com/parks/finder/index.cfm?PropertyID=156&action=ViewPark>)
18. Hop on Portland's street car and take a ride around *Fareless Square* ([www.portlandstreetcar.org](http://www.portlandstreetcar.org))
19. Hike through Forest Park - you barely have to leave the city for 30 miles of trails through lush trees and wildlife (<http://www.portlandonline.com/parks/finder/index.cfm?PropertyID=127&action=ViewPark>)
20. Have a picnic, enjoy the flowers or take advantage of the playground in north Portland's Peninsula Park & Rose Garden (<http://www.portlandonline.com/parks/finder/index.cfm?PropertyID=507&action=ViewPark>)
21. Go on an adventure to find the *silver man* near Pioneer Courthouse Square in downtown Portland
22. Visit the Museum of Contemporary Craft on the first Thursday of each month for a tour through their unique gallery ([www.museumofcontemporarycraft.org](http://www.museumofcontemporarycraft.org))
23. Take in the view from Portland's highest point – Council Crest Park - at 1,073 feet above sea level (<http://www.portlandonline.com/parks/finder/index.cfm?PropertyID=24&action=ViewPark>)
24. Go online to <http://aroundthesunblog.com/free-events/> to find free events in Portland each week

### SUMMER

25. Experience tradition; attend the Portland Rose Festival Junior Parade in June each year (<http://www.rosefestival.org/events/juniorparade/>)
26. Make your way to the Willamette River for the Portland Rose Festival Dragon Boat races to kick off the summer each June (<http://www.rosefestival.org/events/dragonboatrace/>)

27. Join the Juneteenth PDX Freedom Parade & Festival every June in North Portland (<http://juneteenthpdx.org>)
28. Enjoy the Gresham Art Walk family event with live music, free Children's Art Walk Corner, and unique shops and restaurants as the community gathers downtown every July ([www.greshamartwalk.com](http://www.greshamartwalk.com))
29. Experience Portland's jazz scene at the Cathedral Jazz Festival every July under the St. John's bridge (<http://www.cpjazz.com/>)
30. Bring a blanket and some snacks and head down to Pioneer Courthouse Square on Friday nights in July and August for Flicks on the Bricks, a free series of five movies shown downtown (<http://www.pioneercourhousesquare.org/calendar.shtm>)
31. Enjoy music, discount shopping and free family activities at the Hawthorne Street Fair every August ([http://thinkhawthorne.com/happenings/#event\\_95](http://thinkhawthorne.com/happenings/#event_95))
32. Sign up your mentee for summer gardening classes at Portland's Woodlawn Community Garden and volunteer to join them (<http://www.portlandonline.com/parks/index.cfm?c=39846&a=113450>)
33. Enjoy summer movies in the morning! The Regal Entertainment Family Film festival runs for nine weeks during the summer and all movies beginning at 10am on Tuesdays and Wednesdays are free (<http://www.regmovies.com/nowshowing/familyfilmfestival.aspx>)
34. Stroll, skate, cycle, or sit and relax with your neighbors at Sunday Parkways events in numerous Portland neighborhoods during the summer months (<http://www.portlandonline.com/Transportation/index.cfm?c=46103>)
35. Meet your neighbors and enjoy the outdoors at Tualatin Hills Parks & Rec's largest annual event - Party in the Park - with free family activities (<http://www.thprd.org/events/partyinthepark.cfm>)
36. Stroll through the streets of Portland's Pearl District during the neighborhood's First Thursday Art Walk in the summer months (<http://www.explorethepearl.com/pearl-district-events>)
37. Watch performances from local musicians and actors at Tualatin Hills Parks & Recreation District annual concerts and theater in the park series (<http://www.thprd.org/events/summerconcerts.cfm>)
38. Splash in the water feature at Jamison Park in Portland's Pearl District (<http://www.portlandonline.com/parks/finder/index.cfm?PropertyID=1140&action=ViewPark>)
39. Take refuge from a hot day at the Commons Fountain in Tualatin (<http://www.ci.tualatin.or.us/departments/communityservices/parks/commons.cfm>)

## FALL

40. Visit the Audubon Society of Portland's Wildlife Care Center to learn about the local flora and fauna (<http://.audubonportland.org>)
41. Find your favorite Portland Farmer's Market; many locations to visit ([www.portlandfarmersmarket.org](http://www.portlandfarmersmarket.org))
42. Explore Portland's diverse neighborhoods on foot or bike – route maps available at <http://www.portlandonline.com/Transportation/index.cfm?c=39402>
43. Introduce your mentee to art from around the country at the annual Art in the Pearl festival held each September in the Park Blocks ([www.artinthepearl.com](http://www.artinthepearl.com))
44. Play disc (frisbee) golf at one of many courses in the Portland metro area (complete map of courses available at [www.oregondiscgolf.com](http://www.oregondiscgolf.com))
45. Play basketball, volleyball, soccer or many other sports at your local park or community courts. Go to one of the following Web sites to find parks and facilities in your area or search your city's Web site for parks and recreation information.
  - o Beaverton: <http://thprd.org/parks/parklist.cfm>
  - o Clackamas County: <http://co.clackamas.or.us/parks/>
  - o Hillsboro: <http://www.ci.hillsboro.or.us/Parksrec/ParksFacilities/Parks.aspx>
  - o Portland: [www.portlandonline.com/parks/finder/](http://www.portlandonline.com/parks/finder/)
  - o Vancouver: [http://cityofvancouver.us/parks-recreation/parks\\_trails/index.asp](http://cityofvancouver.us/parks-recreation/parks_trails/index.asp)
46. If age appropriate, visit local colleges or universities and discuss your mentee's academic or career plans for the future (complete list of Oregon schools available at [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List\\_of\\_colleges\\_and\\_universities\\_in\\_Oregon](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_colleges_and_universities_in_Oregon))
47. Visit a local pumpkin patch, orchard or corn maze during the fall season (local options available at <http://www.pumpkinpatchesandmore.org/ORpumpkins.php>)
48. Take photos of your favorite places in your community and make a photo memory book together
49. Browse the many shops and stops on NW 23<sup>rd</sup> in Portland's Alphabet District
50. Call for seasonal tour times of the Portland Police Mounted Patrol Equestrian Facility in the Northwest neighborhood (503.823.2100)
51. Walk along North Portland's Marine Drive and watch the airplanes take off from PDX (map available at <http://www.portlandonline.com/shared/cfm/image.cfm?id=70242>)
52. Visit the Hoyt Arboretum and use one of the many maps from the visitor center to explore the area (<http://hoystarboretum.org>)