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FAMILY ACTIVITIES

[January 2019]

Toronto:

The Sun Life Financial Museum + Arts Pass (MAP) lets you and your family (2 adults & up to 5 children) explore the best of Toronto's arts and cultural treasures for free. With your valid adult Toronto Public Library card, you can take out a pass for your family at any Toronto Public Library branch. Quantities are limited and [rules and conditions apply](#)

Participating Venues:

Passes are available for the various venues including the following:

AGO - Art Gallery of Ontario

Bata Shoe Museum

Black Creek Pioneer Village

Casa Loma

[See here for more information](#)

City of Toronto Historic Museums:

- Colborne Lodge in High Park
- Fort York National Historic Site
- Gibson House Museum
- Mackenzie House
- Montgomery's Inn
- Scarborough Museum
- Spadina Museum: Historic House & Gardens
- Todmorden Mills Heritage Site

- Gardiner Ceramics Museum
- Museum of Inuit Art
- Ontario Science Centre
- ROM - Royal Ontario Museum
- Textile Museum of Canada
- Toronto Zoo

Riverdale Farm is more than 7 acres of green space in downtown Toronto, complete with cows, horses, sheep, goats, pigs, chickens, and other docile farm animals. Visitors can meander the grounds and watch staff do their chores free of charge.

The farm is particularly charming in that it recreates early 20th century Ontario farm life - no pop machines or tacky gift shop - a few homemade goodies are available for purchase, but all in keeping with the Riverdale theme.

Public Transit: From Castle Frank subway station, get on Parliament bus and get off at Winchester. Walk east to the end of the street.

From College or Queens Park subway station, take the eastbound streetcar and get off at Sumach Street, east of Parliament. Walk north to Carlton Street, and cut through the Riverdale Park.

The Beaches is an east-end Toronto neighborhood that boasts a long stretch of waterfront. Come down for the day to hang out at the beach, stroll the boardwalk or visit the shops and eateries on Queen Street East.

To get to the Beaches, try taking one of the city's streetcars, many of which head straight down Queen Street, giving you a cheap tour of one of Toronto's most famous streets. Toronto's streetcar routes operate in the classic style on street tracks shared with car traffic; they are not heritage streetcars run for tourism or nostalgic purposes.

Centre Island is a great trip for anyone wishing to escape the hustle and bustle of the city. Getting to **Centre Island** requires a ferry ride. Ferries leave every 15 - 30 minutes, cost \$4 - \$8 return, and take about 10 minutes.

Centre Island is 600 acres of parkland. Other than the ferry ride, there's no cost, but a small amusement park, restaurants, and other attractions may lure you to open up your wallet. Keep the budget in check by bringing a picnic lunch or take advantage of the fire pits and barbecue.

Scarborough Bluffs Park- Bluffs stretch for about 14km along the Lake Ontario shore, from the Eastern Beaches of Toronto in the west, to West Hill in the east. The Scarborough Bluffs are a significant geological feature resulting from the accumulation of sedimentary deposits over 12,000 years ago. They were formed by the natural processes of wind and water erosion from Lake Ontario.

Near: Midland & Kingston, [TTC Information:](#) Take the eastbound Kingston Road 12 bus from Victoria Park station. Get off at the Kingston Road at Brimley Road bus stop. It is a ten minute walk south on Brimley Road from the bus stop to the park.

Black Creek Pioneer Village

Founded in 1960, Black Creek Pioneer Village is a historic site that recreates rural Ontario life as it was in the 1800s. It contains more than forty genuine nineteenth-century buildings, including a mill, a church, a hotel, a school and shops, while costumed guides put on reenactments and activities.

Min Price: \$11

Max Price: \$15

Phone: 416-736-1733

High Park

Centrally located on 399 acres of land in the heart of the Toronto, High Park provides visitors with a unique and unusual sense of wilderness. Combining forested area, riparian zones including creeks and the largest pond in Toronto, as well as recreational facilities and well-maintained park land, High Park has something for everyone.

From **High Park Subway Station** or **Keele Subway Station** walk south (crossing Bloor Street West)

From the **506 College Streetcar** get off at High Park Loop

From the **501 Queen Streetcar** get off at Colborne Lodge Drive

The Royal Ontario Museum offers an opportunity for your children to learn while having fun at Saturday Morning Club, a series of eight weekly classes. Presided over by qualified teachers and limited to twenty students per class, the course keeps kids busy with activities teaching them about the world around them.

At Saturday Morning Club, the ROM gives to children the opportunity to paint, explore, research, create and more, in a fun-filled environment where they can make new friends. It's one of many programs that the Royal Ontario Museum has for kids, such as Tiny Tots, ROM Moms and sleepovers.

Location: Royal Ontario Museum (ROM)

Phone: 416-586-5797

The ROM –Family night is Friday 4.30pm- 8.30pm

Art Gallery of Ontario *Wednesday nights* at the AGO: Entry to the Permanent Collection is *free* from 6 – 8:30 pm.

Vancouver:

Visit Granville Island

Once home to some serious industry (hence its former name, Industrial Island), Granville Island is now one of the best places for families to experience Vancouver

Hang out in Stanley Park

Stroll along the sea wall, picnic on the greens, smell the roses...it doesn't get much better than Vancouver's pride and joy.

Watch the water at Lonsdale Quay

Perfect for those that want a relaxing afternoon, the quay offers seaside breezes that make this a perfect picnic spot.

Central Park

Central Park is a significant wooded area with plenty of trails and facilities located at the boundary between Burnaby and Vancouver. It is one of the oldest parks in the city, and includes an outdoor pool, small Pitch & Putt, a track and field stadium and playground designed for children with disabilities. (604.294.7450)

Smell the Flowers at Queen Elizabeth Park

From lawn bowling to the famous dancing fountains at its peak, Queen Elizabeth Park has lots of free things to do and see, but it's hard to top a trip to its beautiful quarry gardens. [Queen Elizabeth Park's two quarry gardens](#) are horticultural delights, with pathways, bridges and mini waterfalls set amongst hundreds of plants and flowers.

Get Wet at the Beach

Vancouver beaches are some of the best in the world, boasting soft sand, thrilling mountain-and-city vistas, and lots of chances for outdoor sports and adventure. Whether it's a hot summer day and you're looking for fun in the sun, or a cool autumn afternoon and the family wants the perfect barbecue spot, Vancouver's gorgeous beaches are a perfect free getaway.

Cross the Lynn Canyon Suspension Bridge

Located just north of Vancouver, Lynn Canyon is the free alternative to the [Capilano Suspension Bridge](#). Not only does Lynn Canyon have its own **free** suspension bridge, it boasts waterfalls, mini hikes and a swimming hole for summer.

Vancouver Art Gallery- Weekly Family Programs

Every weekend the Gallery offers unique activities geared towards 5 to 12 year old visitors and their families. For those wishing to bring a group, we recommend a ratio of one adult for every four children. Private groups may also be arranged for a fee by phoning 604.662.4717. **Weekly Family Programs** are free with Gallery admission. [See here](#)

Calgary:

Family Night at Village Square - 30% off regular family admission **Wednesdays from 6 - 8 p.m.** Bring the family and enjoy an active night in Village Square's Water Park.

The City of Calgary Wading & Spray Pools - Arbor Lake - 12 Arbor Lake Dr. N.W.; Edgemont - 125 Eden stone Pl. N.W.; Eau Claire Plaza - 3 St. & Riverfront Ave. S.W.; Prairie Winds Park - 223 Castle ridge Blvd. N.E.; Riley Park - 800 12 St. N.W.; Stanley Park - 4011 1A St. S.W.; Bowens Park - 8900 48 Ave. N.W.; Can more Park - 19 St. & Chicoutimi Dr. N.W.; Rotary Park - 617 1 St. N.E.; Somerset Square - 999 Somerset Dr. S.W.; South Glenmore Park (Variety Park) -
90 Ave. & 24 St. S.W.; Valley view Park - 28 St. & 30 Ave. S.E.; Olympic Plaza Reflecting Pool - 228 8 Ave. SE.

The City of Calgary Outdoor Pools - Bow view Outdoor Pool - 1910 6 Ave. NW; Highwood Outdoor Pool - 25 Holmwood Ave. NW; Mount Pleasant Outdoor Pool - 2310 6 St. NW; Silver Springs Outdoor Pool - Silverridge Cl. & Silverridge Dr. NW; South Calgary Outdoor Pool - 3130 16 St. SW; Stanley Park Outdoor Pool - 4011 1A St. SW; Forest Lawn Outdoor Pool - 1706 39 St. SE; Millican- Ogden Outdoor Pool - 69 Ave. & 20A St. SE.

Fish Creek Park - Only a hop, skip and a jump from Calgary's southern suburbs, Canada's largest urban park covers more than ten kms of protected river valley.

Nose Hill Park - A unique natural environment park located in Northwest Calgary just 15 minutes from downtown.

Sikome Lake - Life's a beach at Calgary's famous swimming hole. Enjoy cooling down on a hot day at this well-known South Calgary treasure.

Beaver Dam Flats - Beaver Dam Flats is surrounded by various natural habitats that attract beavers.

Aero Space Museum of Calgary- Adults \$10, Children \$5, Children 5years and under are free.

Public Library Passes

Edmonton:

Visit the biggest mall in North America

No trip to Alberta's capital is complete without a stop at West Edmonton Mall. The

legendary all-in-one landmark hosts over 800 retail stores, 100 eating establishments and 10 world-class theme park attractions. Don't miss the tropical

World Waterpark; the Ice Palace, an NHL-size indoor skating rink; Galaxyland amusement park; and Ropes Quest, is the mall's newest attraction, which includes

a three-level obstacle course. Open 365 days a year and covering more than 48 city blocks, this shopping and entertainment destination will thrill and delight the entire family. *West Edmonton Mall, 8882-170 St., 780-444-5308,*

Escape the city without leaving the city

Escape to the Muttart Conservatory—a vibrant, tranquil and inspiring greenhouse oasis inside the city’s iconic pyramid structures designed by award-winning architect [Peter Hemingway](#). Imagine you’re on a Caribbean island in the humid warmth of the Tropical Pyramid and marvel over the strangely shaped plants in the

Arid Pyramid. In the Temperate Pyramid, you can stroll through the rich seasonal foliage, and in the Feature Pyramid, enjoy creative, ever-changing displays and

exhibitions. For delectable nibbles, drop into the famous Culina Café for a freshly made snack or light meal. [Muttart Conservatory, 9626-96 A St., 780-442-5311](#)

Travel back in time

Take a journey to the olden days at Fort Edmonton, the city’s living history park, where you can see a replica of the 1846 fort, a working steam locomotive, and re-created historical streets of 1885, 1905 and 1920. Join costumed interpreters for an

interactive adventure, and experience life as an early pioneer. Visitors can also enjoy high tea or an overnight stay at the elegant Hotel overlooking the park’s re-creation of life in the 1920s. [Fort Edmonton Park, Fox Dr. and White mud Dr., 780-496-8787,](#)

Take a dip in the government’s wading pool

Surrounded by 56 acres of parkland; the [Beaux-Arts Alberta Legislature Building](#) has always been a must-see for visitors who appreciate architecture, politics and history. Teens might enjoy taking a tour of the building, but all kids will be interested in the fun wading pool, fountains and extensive gardens that surround the building. • [Alberta Legislature Building, 10820-98 Ave., 780-427-7362.](#)

Take a Segway tour of the River Valley

Older kids will love to take a Segway tour along the trails of Edmonton's ribbon of

green riverside parkland. (Book a tour online [here](#).) The River Valley is 22 times the size of New York's Central Park, making it one of the largest urban stretches of river valley parkland in North America. Encompassing 22 major parks, it's home

to a wide range of wildlife and host to many of the city's festivals. If the Segway tour doesn't appeal to you, try out the recreation centres, golf courses and the

Edmonton Valley Zoo tucked in among the lush banks of the North Saskatchewan

River. • *Segway of Edmonton, 8882-170, # 1405 West Edmonton Mall, 1-877-433-*

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Party down at Churchill Square

Culture, food and entertainment collide at Churchill Square—a family-friendly, vibrant and lively urban plaza located in the heart of downtown Edmonton. Annual events such as the [Edmonton International Street Performers Festival](#), [A taste of Edmonton](#) and [Cariwest Caribbean Arts Festival](#), take over this open-air square transforming the space into one huge celebration. Something fun for everyone can

be found amongst the surrounding hotels, shops, restaurants, cafés, pubs, lounges and more. Just looking for a place to relax and let the kids play? Let them splash in City Hall's wading pool, which becomes a skating rink in winter. You can also bring the family for a movie on a massive outdoor projection screen or surf the Web using the Square's free wi-fi as you soak up the sun. • *Churchill Square, access from 100 St. and 102 Ave.*

Get lost and found in a corn maze

Located on a family farm in the scenic Sturgeon County, Prairie Gardens and

Adventure Farm offers good old-fashioned family fun for kids ages nine-92. Enjoy more than 50 different exciting activities including three corn mazes and a you- pick vegetable patch. • [Prairie Gardens & Adventure Farms, 56311 Lily Lake Rd.,](#)

[Bon Accord, 780-921-2272](#)

View the river from above

The High Level Bridge Streetcar lets patrons take an exciting ride over the North Saskatchewan River on a historic Edmonton streetcar. Though it only runs in the summer months, it's a great way to get a panoramic view of the city and its famous

waterway. [High Level Bridge Streetcar, departs from either Gateway Blvd. & 84 Ave. or 109 St. & 100 Ave., See here for more information](#)

Royal Alberta Museum- Adults \$11, Children \$6, Children under 6 years are free. Saturday/Sunday mornings from 9am-11am is half price.

Regina:

Royal Saskatchewan Museum - 2445 Albert Street/ College Ave. Regina, Saskatchewan S4P 4W7, Canada

West Meadows Raceway - West Regina Bypass, Regina, Saskatchewan S4P 2Z5.

306-522-0533

Children Events/programs

Regina Science Centre - 2903 Powerhouse Drive, Regina, SK (Take Wascana Drive east off Broad Street, on the north side of Wascana Lake)

RCMP Heritage Centre - *RCMP Heritage Centre 5907 Dewdney Avenue, Regina, SK Canada S4T 0P4 Phone: 306-522-7333*

Saskatoon:

Drop-In Indoor Playground

Saskatoon Kinsmen/Henk Ruys Soccer Centre

Runs Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays 9:30 – 11:30 am

Fee: \$5/visit or \$30/month (1 adult and up to 3 kids)

Movies for Mommies

Private screening for parents at the Rainbow Cinemas on Thursdays at 1:00p.m.

Cost: \$6.00. Access to bottle warmer, change table and free wipes. If your kid cries or makes a scene, it's not a big deal as all the kids there will do that at some

point. Moms can feel free to openly breast feed in the theatre. Check the MFM

web site or get on their mailing list to be kept up to date on what is going on.

Children's Discovery Museum

2325 Preston Ave S, Saskatoon

306-683-2555

The Children's Discovery Museum is a not-for-profit, charitable organization dedicated to fostering creativity, curiosity and a life-long love

of learning in children under 10. We strive to be accessible and affordable to every child in Saskatoon.

Gladys' Doll House Wonder world Museum

4km north of Saskatoon on Hwy 12, then 1.6 km east (past 4 radio towers)
(306) 933-2638

Explore through a collection of over 1,000 antique and new dolls, with 130 different themes. Along with each group of dolls is a scene appropriate to their

history. A family craft shop is also available at the facility. Open Victoria Day to mid-September, 1:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., winter hours upon request. Admission

\$3.00 for adults, \$2.50 for students, \$1.00 for child (free for children under five). Free access to family craft shop.

Kinsmen Park Rides

Located at the corner of Spadina Cres. and 25th St.

A family fun park with rides including an old fashioned merry-go-round, miniature ferris wheel, train and concession. You can also play village and paddling pool. Open daily May through Labor Day, hours vary with season.

Saskatoon Zoo & Forestry Farm Park

1903 Forest Dr.

(306) 975-3382

The majority of the animal exhibits are domestic species of North America. Examples of what you'll see are bears, foxes, moose, waterfowl, bison and wolves. There is also a petting zoo with many friendly animals for the entire family to enjoy. Have lunch at one the beautiful picnic sites while enjoying the

botanical displays. Those more athletic in the family can take advantage of ski trails, sports fields and fishing ponds. Train rides are available taking you throughout the zoo. Open daily from May 1 to Labour Day, 9:00 am to 9:00 pm, from Labour Day to April 30 the hours are 8:00 am to 4:00 pm; The Zoo hours are 10:00 am to 5:00 pm daily. During admission is paid through voluntary contributions.

Family Day Picnic for Co-op Kids Club Members - Games, activities, food for the whole family! Registration begins on June 1st (until June 13th), but the events is on June 15th at the Forestry Farm, South Booth from noon until 5p.m. Let the gate attendant know you're there for the Co-op Kids Club picnic. If the weather is bad, the event will be cancelled.

Western Development Museum- Adults \$9, Children 6-12years \$2.50, 5 years and under are free. Family deal \$20

Winnipeg:

A Maze in Corn

Address: 1351 Provincial Road 200

St. Adolphe, MB, R

Phone: 204.883.2048

Assiniboine Forest

Address: Corner of Chalfont Road and Grant Avenue

Winnipeg, MB

Phone: 311

Assiniboine Park

Address: 2355 Corydon Avenue

Winnipeg, MB

Phone: 204.927.6000

Children's Museum

Address: 45 Forks Market Road

Winnipeg, MB, R3C 4T6

Phone: 204.924.4000

Deer Meadow Farms

Phone: 204.222.1824

Grand Beach

Address: Located 87 km/54 mi. northeast of Winnipeg on Highway 59.

Winnipeg, Manitoba

River Trail Address: The
Forks Winnipeg, MB, R3B
3H6

Phone: 204.233.ALLO (2556)

Tinkertown Family Fun Park

Address: 621 Murdock Road

Winnipeg, MB

Phone: 204.257.8095

Winnipeg Art Gallery

\$55 for a family of four.

Children aged 5 and under are free.

Ottawa:

Take a tour of the [Parliament Buildings](#) and check out the view from the Peace Tower

See the horses at the [RCMP stables and musical ride centre](#)

Tour the gardens at [Rideau Hall](#)

The [Canadian Museum of Civilization](#), including the absolutely stellar Children's Museum, is free on Thursday nights after 4 pm.

[Watson's Mill](#) in Manotick is free every day, with milling demonstrations through the summer months

In the west end, walk the boardwalk along the Rideau River wetlands in the [Chapman Mills conservation area](#)

Feed the ducks and geese on the Rideau River near Billings Bridge

There's a terrific splash pad and playground off Longfields in Barrhaven. We pack

a picnic and could spend the whole day there.

There are dozens of wading pools of various shapes and sizes tucked away in parks throughout the city. [You can get a list of them here](#)

Canadian Museum of Nature- Adults \$12, Children \$8 Tiny Tots are free.

Montreal:

Granby Zoo Early season hours are from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., and extended summer hours will begin on June 22.

For more information [See here](#)

The Montreal Science Centre

The Montreal Science Centre is located on King Edward Pier in Old

Montreal. For more information, [See here](#)

Parc La Fontaine: has been a cultural center in Montreal's Plateau neighborhood for more than a century. It has a mini-soccer field and volleyball courts open to the public. Meander along the trails to the park's waterfall, which joins two ponds. In the winter, one of them is open for skating. When the weather is warm, take a dip in the wading pool, or enjoy one of the free summer evening concerts.

Mont Royal, at more than 760 feet high, is the hill after which Montreal was named. [Parc du Mont-Royal](#) is one of the city's best-known and best-loved spots. The park was designed by Frederick Law Olmstead, who also co-created New York City's Central Park. The park is known for its diverse flora and fauna and spectacular views of the entire city. The Chalet du Mont Royal is a great lookout spot.

Explore the [Montréal Biodôme](#). Wander through four ecosystems of the Americas, with over 4,800 animals and 750 plant types—kids will be sure to fall for the playful penguins in the Sub-Antarctic exhibit.

Chill out at the beach. When the weather gets warmer, families can head to a beach five minutes outside of downtown in [Parc Jean-Drapeau](#). Kids can swim, play beach volleyball, jump on a trampoline or rent a kayak.

Take an ice cream break. Stop in for a treat at one of the city's most popular ice cream parlours, [Le Glacier Bilboquet](#). Founded in 1983, this local staple now has seven locations and offers artisanal *crème glacée* and sorbets in creative flavours like Brou Ha! Ha! (Vanilla with brownies, caramel, praline bits and pieces of

chocolate-covered toffee) and King Kong Cocktail (banana with milk chocolate chunks) plus some simpler options like mint chocolate chip (with real mint, of course) and maple.

Take in a celestial sound and light show. Built between 1824 and 1829, the Gothic Revival [Notre-Dame Basilica](#) captivates hundreds of thousands of admirers every year. Paintings, sculptures, glittering gold leaf and dazzling stained-glass windows illustrate biblical passages. Coolest thing for kids might be the evening's sound and light show that tells the story of Montréal and the creation of the church.

St. John – NB:

Fundy Trail Parkway - Saint John, New Brunswick, Canada 508/833-2019

New Brunswick Museum - 1 Market Square, St.John, NB E2L4Z6, Canada, 506
643 2300

Cherry Brook Zoo Inc. - 901 Foster Thurston Drive, St John, NB E2K 5H9, 506-
634-1140

Little River Reservoir Park - 60 Wayne Way, St John , NB Canada

Halifax:

Atlantic Playland - 1200 Lucasville Road/ Hammonds Plains, Halifax, Nova
Scotia. 865-1025

Halifax Public Gardens - Spring Garden Road and South Park St. Halifax,
Halifax, Nova Scotia B3T. 1902-423-9865

Lawrencetown Beach - Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada (Downtown Halifax)

Discovery Centre - 1593 Barrington St, Halifax, Nova Scotia B3J 1Z7 1902 492
4422

Nova Scotia Sport Hall of Fame - 1800 Argyle Street/ Suite 446, Halifax, Nova Scotia B3J 3N8 Canada (Downtown Halifax) 902-421-1266

Clay Cafe Pottery Studio - 6413 Quinpool Road, Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada, 902-429-2994

St. John's NFLD:

The Fluvarium: A museum with underwater windows, giving you a unique glimpse of the life and ecosystem of Nagles Hill Brook.

The Johnson Geo Centre: Another great place to learn and have fun, this distinctive building has a museum dedicated to geology and is heated using modern geothermal energy.

Pippy Park: Mini-golfing, driving range, groomed pathways and plenty of open air.

Bowring Park: Kids love the Peter Pan statue, tennis courts, swimming pool, playground and duck pond.

The Rooms: A museum which proudly display three galleries which examines the natural history and native peoples of the province.

Cape Spear: Visit the lighthouse, and the easternmost point in North America. The perfect place for a memorable family photograph.

Whale Watching: Opportunities are plenty. Take to the high seas and discover humpbacks, dolphins, and other marine life