

Manito/ Cannon hill

NEIGHBORHOOD SCAVENGER HUNT

Scavenger Hunt Stop: Japanese Garden

I'm quiet and calm with a pond full of fish, Find me for peace or a photo-wish. Bridges, rocks, and trees so neat!

Fun Fact: This peaceful garden is named after Spokane's sister city in Japan—Nishinomiya! A long time ago, it was a zoo with animals like ostriches and emus!

Activity: Walk around the pond and count how many colorful koi fish you can find. **Hint:** Look closely—some like to hide under the rocks or plants!

Photo by Bill Tamm

Scavenger Hunt Stop: The Duck Pond (Mirror Pond)

Once called Mirror, shallow and wide, Skaters and dancers came to glide. With ducks today and fish below— Can you guess where families go?

Fun Fact: Long ago, this pond was big enough for boats, dances, and winter ice skating! It was only about 2–5 feet deep and people even rented canoes here.

Activity: Stand by the edge and count how many ducks you see. **Bonus:** Talk about what it might have been like to skate here 100 years ago!

Scavenger Stop: Gaiser Conservatory – A World of Plants

Step inside the glassy dome where plants from every climate call home—just past Duncan Gardens, you'll find the bloom!

Fun Fact: The Gaiser Conservatory, named after longtime park board member Dr. David Gaiser, is a greenhouse filled with plants from around the world. It's free to visit year-round and shows off seasonal displays thanks to the Friends of Manito, a group that helps keep the park blooming.

Activity – “Plant Passport” Pretend you're exploring the jungle or desert—can you find a plant with big leaves? One with spikes? One that smells good? Draw your favorite!

Scavenger Hunt Stop: Rose & Lilac Gardens

I'm full of petals, colors so bright, I bloom in the day and sleep at night. With 150 roses and lilacs too, What garden smells sweet and shows every hue?

Fun Fact: This garden has over 150 kinds of roses and 100 kinds of lilacs—Spokane is even called The Lilac City! Some of these flowers have been blooming here for over 100 years!

Activity: Close your eyes and take a big sniff—what does the garden smell like to you?

Scavenger Stop: The Scoop – Seriously Fun Flavors

Find the spot where cones are king and flavors rotate with the swing—award-winning scoops await with something for every taste!

Fun Fact: The Scoop is known for its small-batch, handcrafted ice cream and fresh waffle cones. Every day, they dream up new flavors—like Watermelon Dole, Mud Pie, and Coco Nutty Trail Mix. With vegan, dairy-free, and gluten-free options, there's something fun for everyone!

Activity – “Design Your Dream Flavor!”

Draw your very own ice cream creation. What's it called? What's in it? Would it be fruity, chocolatey, crunchy, or creamy? Share it with your grown-up or even show it to the Scoop crew!

Scavenger Stop: Park Bench Café – Snacks in the Shade

Where the gardens bloom and the music might play, find a bench, grab a snack, and enjoy the day!

Fun Fact: Since 1923, the Park Bench Café has been a favorite local hangout. Whether it's a sunny day snack, a shady picnic, or a surprise concert, this café is a cozy corner of Manito Park where memories are made.

Activity – “Snack & Sketch”

Pick your favorite snack, then find a quiet picnic table. While you munch, sketch what you see around you—flowers, trees, birds, or friends!

**Congratulations,
explorers!**

**Don't forget to continue the fun...
Explore the bonus stops on the
back!**

Bonus Stop: Your Local Library!

While you're out exploring, don't forget to swing by your local library. Join in on their storytimes and check out tons of fun, free rentals to keep your summer full of learning and play. From books and games to activity kits and more, it's a perfect way to keep the adventure going!

Bonus Stop: Your Local Aquatic Center!

Make a splash! Many Spokane-area aquatic centers offer free swim times for kids, and fun summer events like neighborhood pool parties to kick off the summer! Check their website to find swim times and party dates near you!

Bonus Stop: Your Local Public School Playground!

Did you know most public school playgrounds stay open all summer? It's the perfect spot to climb, slide, and play! Heading into kindergarten or a new school? Visiting the playground is a great way to get familiar with the space before the first day!

Mini Activity:

Play "School Explorer"! Pretend you're on your first day—can you find the front door, a place to sit, and the tallest slide?

Bonus Stop: Your Local Business & Community Center!

Explore your neighborhood! Stop by a local business (like a bakery, barber shop, or market) and visit your community center to see what events or resources they offer for families. These places are great for making connections and learning more about your area!

Friends of Manito is always putting together fun, inclusive events for all ages, helping to create a welcoming, safe, and vibrant space for everyone to enjoy. From seasonal celebrations to educational activities, there's always something happening in beautiful Manito Park! Be sure to check out their event page to stay up to date. Through pride, participation, and community spirit, Friends of Manito is building a stronger neighborhood—one gathering at a time.

Mini Activity:

Draw a "Neighborhood Treasure Map" with your child—mark the business, the community center, and one fun thing you saw at each place!

You've completed the adventure — for now!

Make a heart with your hands with your family and friends at your favorite stop and #Launchfamilyfun on Facebook or Instagram for a chance to win a summer gift basket!

We'll be picking one lucky winner each month all summer long.

Keep exploring — from history to nature to community, there's so much to discover this season!

