

West Central

NEIGHBORHOOD SCAVENGER HUNT

Scavenger Stop: Highbridge Park – A Park of Many Plans

This riverside park has worn many hats and now it's a hub for nature, pets, and play!

Fun Fact: Since the 1910s, Highbridge Park has been considered for all kinds of things; from a zoo and veteran housing to a train display and even a dude ranch! Today, it's home to trails, a dog park, disc golf, and scenic views of Latah Creek and the Spokane River.

Activity: Imagine you're the park planner! What wild idea would you pitch for Highbridge? Share your idea with your group, then take a walk and see if you can spot any leftovers from its surprising past!

Scavenger Stop: A.M. Cannon Park – A Century of Play

This historic park has been a place for fun and community gathering for over 100 years!

Fun Fact: Opened in 1912, A.M. Cannon Park once had one of the city's most popular pools. Today, it's still full of fun with a basketball court, picnic shelter, and a splash-worthy water park.

Activity: Pretend you're visiting the park in 1929, what games would you have played back then? Try hopping like you're in a sack race, or spinning like an old-time merry-go-round!

Scavenger Stop: Olmsted Brother's Green – A Place to Pause and Play
Tucked near the river and trail, find the small park where calm meets creativity. It's a green space built with care for all senses!

Fun Fact: This peaceful park is named after the Olmsted Brothers, a famous landscape architecture team. They helped design over 30 parks in Seattle and inspired city planners everywhere to connect people to nature through thoughtful, beautiful green spaces.

Free Activity – "Sensory Explorer!" Can you use all five senses here? What do you see? What do you hear? What do you smell? What can you touch? Write or draw your favorite part of this sensory adventure!

Scavenger Stop: Dutch Jake's Park – A Legacy of Laughter and Renewal
This park honors a neighbor who brought joy to the community and it's still a place for connection today.

Fun Fact: Named after Jacob Gautes, a fun-loving West Central resident from the early 1900s, Dutch Jake's Park opened in 1976. In November of 2019, neighbors celebrated a grand reopening, returning with a renewed sense of community ownership and confidence in the park's safety.

Activity: Think like Dutch Jake! How would you welcome someone new to your park? Try giving a friendly wave to someone nearby or come up with a fun game to play with your group, just like Jake would have done!

Scavenger Stop: Twickenham Park – All Aboard for Fun!

Find the park that once brought people by rail where pools, baseball, and rides made it a can't miss tale!

Fun Fact: Twickenham Park began as a "trolley park," built at the end of a rail line to encourage people to ride. To keep the crowds coming, new attractions were added from a baseball field to a hotel! In 1892, a huge swimming pool turned the park into the Natatorium. Some of its old rides were later moved to Riverfront Park!

Activity – "Park Time Traveler!" Pretend you're a kid from 1892 visiting Twickenham Park for the day. What would you do first; ride the trolley, jump in the pool, or try the rides? Act it out with a friend or write a few lines about your pretend day at the park!

Scavenger Stop: Nettleton Triangle – A Warm Welcome & a Cool Treat!

Look for the triangle where a neighborhood begins—there's a statue, a plaque, and maybe some ice cream wins!

Fun Fact: The Nettleton Triangle has welcomed visitors since 1887! A special plaque honors James "Jimmy" Clancy—an Air Force veteran and longtime Spokane bus driver. Nearby, Doyle's Ice Cream serves homemade scoops that locals have loved for generations.

Activity – "Neighborhood Noticer!" Take a walk around the triangle. Can you spot: The statue? The plaque? Something sweet nearby?

Bonus: What flavor of ice cream would you create to represent this neighborhood?

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!

The Kendall Yards Night Market is the perfect way to spend a summer evening—come meet your neighbors, explore local vendors, and enjoy delicious food from a variety of unique vendors. Stroll along the scenic river trail, take in stunning views, and discover incredible sculptures that make Kendall Yards one of Spokane's most vibrant and artistic neighborhoods. It's more than a market—it's a celebration of community, creativity, and connection.

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!

