



# Palmer Arts Council

*...to nurture, encourage, sponsor and support the free expression of ideas  
in our community through the arts*



## ***Release Your Inner Artist!***

### **55 Fun, Free (mostly) Things for Families & Friends to do in Palmer**



1. Eat a picnic lunch on the old Matanuska River Bridge
2. Have a friend take a picture of you sitting on every public bench in downtown Palmer.
3. Draw a map of your favorite sitting spots in Palmer. Photocopy it and give it to someone.
4. Walk through downtown Palmer and list the smells.
5. Go to the Palmer Public Library and read five random children's picture books.
6. Go to a children's sporting event and cheer loudly.
7. Go to a garage sale with friends and see who gets the best deal for a dollar
8. Watch the planes take off at the Palmer Airport.
9. Climb on the old steam engine #5 in front of the Palmer Depot
10. Bring your watercolors to the Agricultural Showcase Garden and draw some garden flowers
11. Go to an outdoor café with a special friend.
12. Play backgammon or checkers outside somewhere in downtown Palmer. Take a picture.
13. Make a hopscotch grid on the sidewalk in front of the Palmer Depot. Now jump!
14. Play a game of tennis or badminton at the Palmer tennis courts.
15. Go to a Palmer Friday Fling and buy some fresh vegetables.
16. Browse at five Palmer stores that you've never been in before. Buy at least one thing.
17. Have a friend take a picture of you and Balto, the Iditarod Dog in front of the Visitor's Center.
18. Look at the names of the Colonists on the rock monument by the library. Read them out loud.
19. Go to a Mat-Su Miners baseball game and sing "Take Me Out to the Ballgame" with spirit.
20. Go to the Palmer Amusement Park and climb on the play structures.

**Summertime in Palmer, Alaska. Time to get out and enjoy the simple pleasures. You can release your inner artist and take some unique, inexpensive approaches to exploring and understanding our city. Let Palmer be your playground, your laboratory, and your place for developing new networks and connections to place.**

21. Walk through downtown Palmer and admire all the hanging baskets.
22. Study the mural on the back of the Moosehead Saloon.
23. Walk all the way down the bike trail past Job corp. study the city of Palmer emblem at the Fire Training Center.
24. Go to the Palmer Cemetery and respectfully read inscriptions on grave markers.
25. Have a friend take five pictures of you with the palmer Water Tower in the background. Be creative!
26. Our night is your day! On the longest day of the year, June 21, do something special.
27. Go swimming at the Palmer Pool.
28. Hit a bucket of balls at the palmer Golf course. Then eat a hot dog.
29. Go to the Alaska Room in the library and check out an Alaska book.
30. Walk to the Dr. Myron Babb Arboretum near Gulkana and E. Fireweed. Draw your favorite tree.
31. Play Bocce ball or croquet on the grassy area between the Library and the Mat-Su Borough Building.
32. Eat a picnic lunch on the benches near the Train Depot. Bring your yo-yo along and practice tricks.
33. Go birding in Palmer. Get a bird book, pencil & paper, and identify all the birds you see.
34. Take a latte or mocha break.
35. Rent a movie and “kick back’ after a day of play.
36. Get an ice cream cone and sit on a street bench and people watch.
37. Sign up for the summer reading program at the Palmer Public Library.
38. Stop and smell the roses. The many Sitka roses throughout Palmer are incredibly fragrant.
39. Write a haiku about Palmer.
40. Stand on your head at a variety of places throughout Palmer. Take pictures.
41. Cruise around Palmer and photograph as many blue things as you can.
42. Buy a postcard at the Palmer Visitor’s Center. Write about the fun things you’re doing in Palmer. Mail it to yourself.
43. Eat a picnic lunch on a bench or on the lawn between the library and the borough building. Bring a hula-hoop.
44. Buy a good book at one of the bookstores or at the Bishop’s Attic thrift store.
45. Visit the Palmer Museum of Art and History at the Palmer Visitors Center.
46. Grab your bike and helmet and ride around the side streets of Palmer.
47. Have a picnic under the trees in the Veteran’s Grove near the Palmer Agricultural showcase Gardens.
48. Go ice-skating at the Palmer Ice Arena.
49. Find the seal for the Mat-Su Borough. What animals are on it?
50. Blow soap bubbles as you’re walking around the City of Palmer.
51. Get creative with beads. Buy some memory wire and a pack of beads at the bead store and make a bracelet.
52. Play Frisbee on the lawn between the library and borough building.
53. Go to the Colony Days Parade in June and the Alaska State Fair Parade in August.
54. Draw a map from memory of the streets and businesses in downtown Palmer.
55. **Become a member of the Palmer Arts Council! A great city deserves great art!**

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