

*Ideal sandcastle territory:
Second Beach on English Bay*

15 Things Kids Love ABOUT VANCOUVER



*Giant Lego blocks? No, it's Douglas Coupland's
"Digital Orca" at the Vancouver Convention Centre*

*In honour of the Where brand's 75th anniversary, we present
75 things that tots, tykes and teens love about the city*

BY SHERI RADFORD // PHOTOS BY KK LAW

- 1 Seeing the entire city spread out below from the top of the Vancouver Lookout at Harbour Centre (page 78).
- 2 The blue whale skeleton at the Beaty Biodiversity Museum (page 78).
- 3 Watching larger-than-life movies in the OMNIMAX Theatre (page 77).
- 4 Oh-so-thick milkshakes at Marble Slab Creamery (page 101).
- 5 Exploring the 1950s gallery at the Museum of Vancouver (page 78).
- 6 Douglas Coupland's 8-m- (25-ft-) tall "Digital Orca" art installation outside the Vancouver Convention Centre, which looks like it was built entirely out of giant Lego blocks.
- 7 Satisfying a sweet tooth at The Candy Aisle (page 28).
- 8 Splashing around in the Granville Island Waterpark (page 83).
- 9 Watching the CAF Snowbirds roar overhead during the Abbotsford International Airshow (Aug. 12 to 14; page 70).
- 10 Pirate Paks from White Spot (page 98). Aarrghh, matey!
- 11 Spotting all of the wildlife in Stanley Park (page 81)—but staying far, far away from skunks.
- 12 Making sandcastles on the beach.
- 13 Science World at Telus World of Science (page 77). Who knew learning could be so much fun?
- 14 Watching a Vancouver Canadian (page 76) hit one right out of the park at Nat Bailey Stadium.
- 15 The Superdogs at the PNE (Aug. 20 to Sep. 5; page 73). And the mini donuts. And the gravity-defying rides. And pretty much everything about the PNE, really. Bonus: this year, kids aged 13 and under get in free.
- 16 Riding a bike along the seawall.
- 17 Sipping a freckled lemonade (sweet strawberries mixed with tangy lemonade) at Red Robin (page 98).
- 18 All of the kites and puppets for sale in the aptly named Kites & Puppets (page 41) shop.
- 19 Learning about First Nations culture at the Museum of Anthropology at UBC (page 46).
- 20 The mind-boggling assortment of comic books and action figures at Golden Age Collectables (page 41).
- 21 Running around with Fido or Rover in off-leash dog parks.

On a sunny summer's day, kids of all ages can't resist the playground at Stanley Park's Second Beach



- 22 Jumping when the Nine O'Clock Gun goes off each evening in Stanley Park (page 81).
- 23 Playmobil toys at The Granville Island Toy Company (page 41).
- 24 Zipping along on the SkyTrain (page E5)
- 25 Rain. After all, rain creates mud puddles, and mud puddles create fun.
- 26 Getting the creeps at the Vancouver Police Museum (page 79). Forensics workshops are ideal for kids with an interest in the science of police work.
- 27 Seeing orcas up close on a whale watching tour (page 84).
- 28 The Disney Store (page 41) in Metropolis at Metrotown (page 24).
- 29 Riding Aquabus Ferries (page E4) or False Creek Ferries (page E4) to Granville Island (page E2).
- 30 Roaring along with the lions and tigers at the Greater Vancouver Zoo (page 77).
- 31 Caramel apples from Rocky Mountain Chocolate Factory (page 28).
- 32 Watching jumbo jets take off from Vancouver International Airport.
- 33 Kayaking around False Creek.

- 34 Snuggling into a thick fleece blanket to enjoy musicals under the setting sun at Theatre Under the Stars (to Aug. 20; page 76).
- 35 A big bowl of spaghetti—perfect for slurping up one piece at a time—at The Old Spaghetti Factory (page 98). Bonus: every dinner ends with ice cream.
- 36 Seeing the Vancouver Whitecaps (page 76)—BC's first Major League Soccer club—in action on Empire Field.
- 37 Grinder and Coola. These two orphaned grizzly bears live in the wildlife refuge on Grouse Mountain (page 82).
- 38 Spending a rainy day wandering through the Vancouver Art Gallery (page 46).
- 39 Making a splash in Kitsilano Pool (page 83) or Second Beach Pool (page 83).
- 40 Cool organic clothing at Hip Baby (page 28) and Dandelion Kids (page 28).
- 41 Hopping around in the ball room at Ikea (page 37).
- 42 Totem poles.
- 43 Watching the Celebration of Light (Aug. 3 and 6; page 70) fireworks light up the skies over English Bay.

- 44 Finding the perfect bead for a craft project at Beadworks (page 40).
- 45 Spending an hour—or five—exploring the Kids Market (page 41) on Granville Island.
- 46 All of the movies filmed here, such as *Diary of a Wimpy Kid*, *Tron: Legacy*, *The Sisterhood of the Traveling Pants*, *Cats & Dogs: The Revenge of Kitty Galore*, *Deck the Halls*, *Jumanji*, *Elf*, *Air Bud*, *The Lizzie McGuire Movie*, *Night at the Museum* and the *Twilight* series.
- 47 Riding the SeaBus (page E5) to Lonsdale Quay (page 24).
- 48 Seeing the BC Lions (page 75) football team score touchdown after touchdown on Empire Field.
- 49 Learning about pirates, shipwrecks and sunken treasure at the Vancouver Maritime Museum (page 79).
- 50 Watching Shakespeare's plays performed in a tent at Bard on the Beach (to Sep. 24; page 76).
- 51 Getting an adrenaline rush on Cliffwalk at the Capilano Suspension Bridge (page 77).





Stories galore await in Kidsbooks

- 52 Exploring the solar system at the H.R. MacMillan Space Centre (page 77).
- 53 Handcrafted wooden cars from Knotty Toys (page 41).
- 54 Meeting all of the baby animals at Maplewood Farm (page 77).
- 55 Cory Monteith. The *Glee* star was raised in Victoria and began his acting career here in Vancouver, appearing in locally filmed TV shows such as *Smallville*, *StarGate SG-1* and *Supernatural*.
- 56 Browsing for the perfect summertime read in Kidsbooks (page 26).
- 57 Watching buskers perform on Granville Island (page E2).
- 58 Getting lost (and found again!) in Meadows Maze (page 77) and in the Elizabethan hedge maze at VanDusen Botanical Garden (page 81).
- 59 Biting into a juicy burger from Nimby Burger (page 96) while enjoying the sunshine on Kits Beach.
- 60 Riding the 99-year-old carousel at the Burnaby Village Museum (page 78).
- 61 All of the exotic birds in the Bloedel Conservatory (page 79).
- 62 Walking a pooch in Pacific Spirit Regional Park (page 81).
- 63 Flying a kite in Vanier Park (page 81).
- 64 Seeing the forest from above on the Greenheart Canopy Walkway in UBC Botanical Garden (page 81).
- 65 Racing around Richmond Go-Kart Track (page 82).
- 66 All of the different types of hot dog—and different brands of root beer—at Dougie Dog (page 96).
- 67 Riding the miniature railway at the West Coast Railway Heritage Park (page 79).
- 68 Finding the perfect pair of frog- or flower-adorned gumboots at Gumdrops (page 41).
- 69 All of the exotic sights, sounds and aromas of Chinatown (page E1).
- 70 Seeing The Wiggles perform (Aug. 9; page 74).
- 71 Sleepovers at the Vancouver Aquarium (page 78), to find out first-hand what the 70,000 animals do after dark.
- 72 Panning for gold at the Britannia Mine Museum (page 78).
- 73 Cupcakes of every size and colour at Cupcakes (page 101).
- 74 Watching seaplanes take off from the inner harbour.
- 75 Sunny days that go on forever. [W](#)



Bill Reid's 'Chief of the Undersea World' welcomes visitors to the Vancouver Aquarium