

MENTORING FOR 50 YEARS!



Vermont Activity Suggestions
for Windsor County Mentors & Mentees
(2024-2025)

Part One is geared specifically for School Mentors & Mentees, since they meet and remain on the school campus. However, these are also good low stress at home activities for Community Mentors & Mentees.

Part Two contains both free, and at-cost local museums, parks, and other fun places. In some instances, WCM may be able to contribute to fees or arrange passes.

Note: All mentors should check out libraries, whether it is the one at school or in the community. They will have resources for craft ideas, how to books, reading books, etc. along with free passes to various local attractions.

Local libraries also have free passes to local parks, events, and attractions you can check out, board games you can borrow, and free activity nights.

Part One: School-Based Activities

The computer version of this has links!

1. [Color together](#) (coloring books, paint by number, drawing, painting).
2. [Make playdough or slime.](#)
3. [Create potholders, placemats, or wall hangings \(weaving\).](#)
4. [Try needlecrafts like crochet, knitting, finger weaving, braiding, embroidery, or sewing.](#)
5. [Make sock puppets or dolls.](#)
6. Build with Lego or other building materials like K'Nex.
7. Play board games like Trouble, Parcheesi, Checkers, Chess, Monopoly, or Jenga (Guidance Counselors Have These! So does your local Library!)

8. [Play card games](#) like Uno, Clock, Rummy, Crazy Eights, Go Fish, Old Maid, or try card tricks.
9. Make cards for any occasion—birthday, get well, thank you, etc.
10. Conduct simple science experiments like [growing crystals](#) or [making a volcano](#) (use the library as a resource).
11. [Make tie-dye T-shirts.](#)
12. [Create a diorama.](#)
13. [Go outside and blow bubbles.](#)
14. Play ball games like shooting hoops, soccer, catch, or Aleenie (ask Ginny for details).
15. Play on the playground—swings, etc.
16. Play [hopscotch](#) and make your own dropsy.
17. Walk the trails around the schoolyard.
18. Do surface rubbings of trees, cement, buildings, leaves, etc.
19. Learn to identify trees—create a booklet or make tree/leaf people pages.
20. Identify birds by sight or sound, and draw them.
21. Listen to music—sing and dance together, learn a new song, or try Tabata.
22. Make [sunprints](#).
23. Build snowmen or forts in winter.
24. Do puzzles (WCM has some—call or email to request!) or make your own. (So does your local library!)
25. Bake and decorate cookies.
26. Play an instrument like the harmonica, drum, recorder, or guitar.
27. [Try woodworking with simple tools, or with popsicle sticks.](#)

28. [Make and fly paper airplanes.](#)
29. Play pencil and paper games like Tic-Tac-Toe or Hangman.
30. Make friendship bracelets.
31. Play 20 Questions.
32. Take photographs and create a digital slideshow.
33. Build a model.
34. Share your hobby or collection.
35. Make a [salt dough](#) map of a country and research it.
36. Read together—either read to your mentee, take turns reading a page, or both read the same book and discuss it when you meet.

[Try reader's theater.](#)

37. Decorate or build a [gingerbread house.](#)
38. Create a sculpture using pipe cleaners.
39. Write a story together.
40. Make a cartoon flip book.
41. Build a structure using all recyclable materials.
42. Participate in [Green Up Day!](#)
43. Plant seeds and track their growth.
44. Explore with a magnifying glass.
45. Make bread or [tissue flowers.](#)
46. Create a mask.
47. Make a pinwheel.
48. Collect and press wildflowers or leaves.
49. Try [macrame.](#)
50. [Learn to tie different knots.](#)
51. Make and fly a kite.
52. Build [fairy or gnome houses in the woods.](#)

53. Create sand art.
54. Give each other a manicure and paint your nails.
55. Make and [sail a paper sailboat](#).

Part Two: Community-Based Activities

These activities include both free options and those that have fees. WCM may be able to contribute to fees or arrange passes in some cases. Contact the main office at (802) 674-5101 with any questions.

Free Activities

56. Go swimming (with permission) at [Kennedy Pond](#) in Windsor or elsewhere.
57. [Go bike riding](#).
58. Walk or bike on the [Northern Rail Trail](#) in Lebanon.
59. Walk or hike in local parks or trails, such as [Mt. Ascutney](#), [Mt. Tom](#), the Pogue (Woodstock), or [Paradise Park \(Windsor\)](#).
 - a. Try [Geocaching or Letterboxing!](#)
60. [Go fishing](#).
61. Go ice skating, snowshoeing, cross-country skiing, or downhill skiing.
62. Have a cookout, toast marshmallows, or make s'mores.
63. Make ice cream.
64. Play lawn games like cornhole, croquet, badminton, or bocce.
65. Build a fort or debris hut in the woods.
66. Walk dogs or play with cats at a [humane society](#).
67. [Bake or cook at home—choose a recipe, plan the shopping list, shop, cook, and eat!](#)
68. Sew on a sewing machine.

69. Visit [farmers' markets](#).
70. [Stroll through the Antiques Mall in Quechee](#).
71. Explore [Quechee Gorge](#).
72. Visit Dartmouth libraries like [Rauner](#) or [Baker](#) (ask to see the Dr. Seuss collection).
73. Visit covered bridges (maps may be available).
74. Visit fire towers ([Norwich, Okemo](#)).
75. Visit the [Phineas Gage Memorial](#) in Cavendish.
76. Visit the [Indian Stones](#) in Reading.
77. Visit [Vermontasaurus](#) in Post Mills.
78. Observe glass blowing at [Simon Pearce](#).
79. Canoe or kayak (with permission) at [Dewey's Pond](#) in Quechee.
80. Visit [King Arthur Flour](#) in Norwich and watch the bakers!
81. Visit [Nathan's Garden](#) in Hanover.
82. Participate in a [Valley Quest](#).
83. Explore the [Montshire Museum](#) in Norwich. (Free Admission with WC Mentor Card, and Code 2004)
84. [Attend the Moon Festival in Windsor](#).
85. Watch how maple syrup is made.
86. Visit the [Hood Museum](#) in Hanover.

Activities with Fees

87. Visit the [American Precision Museum](#) in Windsor. (Adults 10\$/Students 5\$)
88. Visit the [Old Constitution House](#) in Windsor.
89. Visit the [Stellafane Observatory](#) in Springfield.

90. Visit the [Main Street Museum](#) in White River Junction.
(Admission is by donation. Call them to ask about tours.)
91. Play mini golf Quechee (10\$ Adults, children Free) and [West Lebanon](#) (Adult: 8\$, Child: 5\$).
92. Go swimming at the [Upper Valley Aquatic Center in White River Junction](#). (Youth 10\$, Senior 12\$, Adult 17\$)
93. Visit the [Hopkins Center](#) in Hanover. (Free admission with Mentor Card)
94. Visit [Wilson Castle](#) in Proctor. (Children: 12.50\$, Seniors 18\$, Adults 19\$)
95. Explore the [Vermont Institute of Natural Science \(VINS\)](#) in Quechee. (Adults 19.50\$, Children 16.50\$ -- **Contact us for Free Pass Loan**)
96. Check out the [Path of Life Garden](#) in Windsor. (Kids 3\$, Seniors 5\$, Adults 6\$)
97. Go berry or [apple picking](#).
98. Visit [Billings Farm & Museum in Woodstock](#). (Kids 12\$, Seniors 16, Adults 19. **Call Our Office In Advance for Free Tickets**)
99. Attend a country fair in late summer or early fall (Locations include [Tunbridge](#) and [Cornish](#) – Sometimes out of area, make sure to fill out permission forms.)
100. [Visit Main Street Racing](#) in Windsor for Practice (10\$ per person)
101. Attend WCM's annual picnic in August at the Hartland Dam.

Check out these websites for more ideas:

- [Atlas Obscura](#)
- [Top 10 Best Things to Do near Windsor County VT](#) (Yelp)
- [Top 20 Attractions in Windsor County](#) (KoMoot)