

#70THINGS

Arts Council England
70 years celebrating
great art and culture



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Est. 1946

#70THINGS

Help celebrate our seventieth year with these surprising, fun and affordable activities.

We'll be sharing one activity from this list every day for seventy days. You can join in on the day, or take inspiration from the full list below whenever you like.

Remember: share what you do online using #70things.

Get stuck in – and have fun!

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01. We're 70 today! Take a picture of the first piece of art you come across today and share it with #70things.

What did you find?

02. Write a haiku. Need some help? They're three lines long and work like this:

*Five-syl-a-bles-first
Se-ven-of-them-on-line-two
Then-go-back-to-five*

03. Catch a cultured Pokémon.

See what you can find at your local arts venue

04. Make a sculpture from your lunch.

Take inspiration from some of the greats at Yorkshire Sculpture Park

05. Visit a library and loan something that isn't a book

06. Go to an art gallery you've never visited before

07. Write the plot of your favourite film using only emojis

08. Draw a self-portrait

Share yours with #70things

09. Make a playlist of your favourite songs for someone you love

10. Go to an open-air theatre production, concert or film screening

11. Go to the most beautiful place that you know and write, draw or photograph what you see or feel.

What did you come up with?

12. Attend an event at your local library

You might be surprised at what's on offer

13. Design a print for a fabric or wallpaper.

Share your finished work with #70things

14. Start a kitchen orchestra

15. Join a book club.

The Reading Agency co-ordinates Chatterbooks groups for children all over the UK

16. Create your own emoji.

Put it in a sentence and let's guess what it is on #70things

17. Take a pottery class and learn how to throw a pot.

What did you make?

18. Discover a local artist near you. Past or present...

Who can you find?

SHARE WHAT YOU GET UP TO WITH #70THINGS

19. Make a vlog of yourself reviewing a book, TV show or film and share it at #70things

20. Write some fan fiction based on your favourite fictional characters.

Have you kept them in their genre, or did you move them to something new?

21. Go to see some brand new art.

You could start with these eight new artworks we've commissioned to celebrate 70 years of the Arts Council Collection

22. See an opera, dance or theatre performance at your local cinema

23. Draw a comic strip about part of your day.

Share it on #70things

24. Find some street art where you live.

How much can you find?

25. Sign up for the Summer Reading Challenge at your local library.

What will you read?

26. Tell people about your dream last night with a Snapchat or Instagram story

27. Interpret your family tree as a work of art.

Take a look at our history for inspiration

28. Explore the online archive of your local art gallery and decide on your favourite piece.

Then go and see it in real life

29. Draw the view from your window in the style of your favourite artist.

Share it with us #70things

30. Tell us a story.

Start a game of consequences on Twitter – write the first sentence of a story then tag a friend to carry it on

31. Choose a short film to watch from the Random Acts collection

32. Curate a moodboard inspired by your favourite novel.

Make one in real life or on Pinterest

33. Tune into the Last Night of the Proms

34. Attend a festival for something that you enjoy.

It could be music, theatre, dance, literary or something else

35. Find a temporary or touring exhibition at a museum or art gallery and write your own review.

Share it with us at #70things

36. Record a film or take a picture of something in your life that you take for granted

What did you choose?

37. Scare yourself. Wait until dark. Find a room where you are alone. Light a candle and read a scary story...

Did you sleep well that night?!

38. Create your favourite dance routine in a different style.

What did you go for – MJ's Thriller in ballet form?

SHARE WHAT YOU GET UP TO WITH #70THINGS

39. Take things to the next level with an Arts Award.

You can get one with anything from fashion to poetry, rapping to dancing and sculpture to film

40. Write a poem on a piece of paper and leave it in a public place for someone else to find

Remember to label it with #70things so you know if it's been found

41. Learn a song on a new musical instrument.

'Happy Birthday' on the harp, 'Twinkle Twinkle' on the tin whistle or... ?

42. Try a life drawing class

43. Customise a piece of clothing using only objects in your kitchen.

Make sure you take a picture and share it on #70things

44. Stop to watch the next time you see a street performer or a busker

45. Find an artwork in your local gallery that you have never seen or noticed before.

What did you find?

46. Take a script from a classic play then learn and record a 2 minute scene with a friend and post it.

Did you remember all the lines?

47. Find a piece of art that you made when you were a child, perhaps from when you were in school, and share it with us at #70things

48. Visit a local choir in your area.

Listen to them sing, or even take part yourself. Tell us how it went

49. Are there any carnival events taking place near you?

Find out where and when, and join in

50. Attend a lecture or talk about art in your area.

Are there any events taking place at your nearest art gallery for example?

51. Watch a classic black and white movie.

How did you pick it – did you ask a grandparent or choose at random?

52. Listen to a piece of music from a composer you have not heard before.

Tell us who you picked #70things

53. Can you find any public art near you? Statues, paintings, architecture.

There might be something closer than you think. What can you find?

54. Interact with art.

Can you find any immersive art taking place at an arts space near you?

55. Take a trip to your local museum and learn something new from their collection or latest exhibition

56. Create a sculpture in Minecraft.

Did you base yours on reality or go wild with new ideas?

57. Get creative at your nearest museum.

Are there any arts events taking place?

58. Illustrate the lyrics from your favourite song.

Don't forget to share with #70things

SHARE WHAT YOU GET UP TO WITH #70THINGS

59. Build your own classical music playlist.

Write it down or make it on iTunes or Spotify

60. Find out more about where you live.

Explore the local collections or archives at a library near you. What did you learn?

61. Is there an arts festival taking place in your local village, town or city?

Can you attend, or even take part? If not, you could throw your own

62. Listen to live music at a concert venue near you.

Try something a little different and choose a style of music that you haven't heard live before.

63. Take a 'selfie portrait', posing like figures in famous artworks.

Are you a serene Mona Lisa or a terrifying The Scream?

64. Listen to an author talk about their work.

Perhaps at a library or bookstore near you

65. Watch a performance in an unusual place.

Check local listings for any site-specific work happening near you

66. Have a creative commute: write a song, draw a picture or imagine a story on your way into school or work.

Share it with your classmates or colleagues when you arrive – and on #70things

67. Make your own desert island discs – which eight records would you want with you if you were stranded on a remote island?

Why did you pick them?

68. Attend a dance performance at an arts venue near you.

Make sure you see something you haven't seen before. What did you choose?

69. What have we missed?

Tell us what you would add to the list: keep it fun, creative and free!

70. What work of art has made the biggest impression on you over the last 70 years?

Share yours with us – and thanks for taking part in #70things!

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