

Calvert County Great American Campout

Nighttime Activities

Compiled and written by Jessy Oberright
Calvert County Natural Resources Division

Ready...Set...Campfire!!



- There is nothing like enjoying an evening around the campfire with family and friends. You can sing songs, tell stories, enjoying making campfire treats, and more! In order to get started, be sure to follow this tutorial on how to set up, start, and safely enjoy your campfire. Click [HERE](#) to view the tutorial.
- To help get your campfire a blazin', you might want to make some homemade fire starters. Watch this video [HERE](#) to help repurpose your old crayons. Materials – egg carton, crayons or old candle wax, dryer lint, cotton, petroleum jelly, pinecones. **This activity requires adult supervision.**
- Kids can wrap up these recycled fire starters [HERE](#) on their own without much adult help. Materials – newspaper, toilet paper or paper towel tubes, dryer lint, string or yarn.



More Songs for Around the Fire

- **“And the Green Grass Grew All Around”** is a classic build upon song where each verse adds another line to the chorus. It’s super fun and super easy to get your campfire crowd going with its call and response verses. Lyrics can be found by clicking [HERE](#). A video of the song being performed is here:



- **“Down by the Bay”** is a fun rhyming song. Kids can use the suggested verses or make up their own. Here is a video of Raffi performing the song:





Here are the lyrics to **Down by the Bay**:

“Down by the bay
Where the watermelons grow
Back to my home
I dare not go
For if I do
My mother will say
"Did you ever you ever see a goose
kissing a moose?"
Down by the bay!

Down by the bay
Where the watermelons grow
Back to my home
I dare not go
For if I do
My mother will say
"Did you ever see a whale
With a polka dot tail?"
Down by the bay!



Down by the bay
Where the watermelons grow
Back to my home
I dare not go
For if I do
My mother will say
"Did you ever see a bear
Combing his hear?"
Down by the bay!"

Down by the bay
Where the watermelons grow
Back to my home
I dare not go
For if I do
My mother will say
"Did you ever see a fly
Wearing a tie?"
Down by the bay!"



Classic Campfire Games



- **Telephone**

Telephone is a game played around the world in which one person whispers a short message to someone else. Easy peasy! The fun begins when that person quietly whispers the message to another person. This secret message is passed from one person to another until the last person announces it to the entire group. Thanks to the errors that usually arise in the retellings, hilarity usually ensues. An oldie but a goodie!

- **Twenty Questions**

Twenty questions is a popular game that starts with one person selected to be an answerer. He or she chooses an object that is kept secret. Everyone else is a questioner, and they take turns asking questions that can be answered with a



“yes” or “no.” If appropriate, “maybe” is also an acceptable answer, but the answerer may not lie.

- **Make Me Laugh**

This game has a simple premise: getting people to laugh while trying not to laugh yourself.

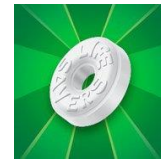
Divide your group into two teams and decide which team is “on stage” first. Then choose one person from the opposing team to be on the “hot seat.” Set the timer for 2 minutes. The team that’s on stage has one simple goal: to make the person on the hot seat laugh.



- **More Campfire Games** can be found by clicking [HERE](#).

A Spark in the Dark

- If you have some wintergreen hard candies and a very dark space, you can try this neat science experiment. Find the instructions and an explanation of triboluminescence (the phenomenon demonstrated in our experiment) by clicking [HERE](#).

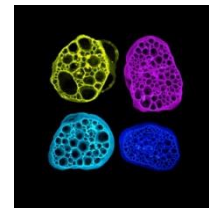


- Make art by creating Glow-in-the-Dark bubbles, foam and chalk! Once you mix up these simple recipes, you can create fantastic bubble sculptures and works of art. Materials for these projects are neon or fluorescent paint, dish liquid, foaming shave cream, plaster and a blacklight.

Click [HERE](#) for the instructions for the Glow Bubbles.

Click [HERE](#) for the instructions for the Glow Foam.

You can also whip up a batch of Glow in the Dark Chalk. Click [HERE](#).



- Play a game of Tic Tac Glow. All you need are about 14 light sticks with connectors to make circles. Half the light sticks should be one color and half should be a different color. Use straight sticks to form the board and use connectors to form circles with the rest of the glow sticks. Each player chooses a color and takes turns placing their circles on the board. Three in a row wins!



Goin’ Batty!

- Use this fun game to learn how bats use echolocation to find insects to eat. You will need a blindfold and a group of players. Click [HERE](#) for the full instructions.
 - Try this cute handprint bat craft. This is a great one for pre-K children. Materials are construction paper, black and white paint, scissors and google eyes. Click [HERE](#) for full instructions.

