

Campfire (Songs, Skits & Stories) Pre-Post Trip Activities

Activity 1. Create a Skit

Campfire class is all about singing songs and participating in silly skits! Split your students into groups and have them create a song or skit about anything they want (school appropriate!) to perform in front of the fire! Encourage them to be as silly and creative as they can be! Everyone will get their moment to shine.

Activity 2. Tybee's Glass Door

After participating in the Green Glass Door riddle, challenge students by adding another twist. Only allow things through related to their trip to the Burton 4H Center and has double letters.

Ex. Fiddler crabs can go through the Tybee glass door, but blue crabs cannot.

Ex. Trees can through the Tybee glass door, but spartina cannot.

Activity 3. Build an Edible Campfire

This activity allows students to practice making campfires in various styles and having a tasty treat. The activity can be changed to cut out if food is not an option. Have students use materials to build a campfire ring which will contain the area of the fire. Then using the thick pretzel sticks, have students practice a log cabin or teepee formation for their campfire. Add kindling (small/thin pretzel sticks). Go over what is needed to ignite a fire (use cheese, candy corn, or starburst to be the flames). "Roast" marshmallows over the created fire and enjoy eating afterwards!

Activity 4. Essentials for fire

The three essentials are heat, fuel, and air. Pull out a match and ask why it isn't on fire yet (it has fuel and air but is missing heat). Strike the match and show that now it has all three essentials for fire so it burns. Let it burn down and then lay it on the ground or any surface that won't get burned and let it burn out. Ask the students why it went out (it ran out of fuel). Next, strike another match and use a small ball of modeling clay to make it stand straight up. Before it burns down, place the glass jar over the match and wait for it to go out. Now what happened to cause the match to go out?



Activity 6. Build a Model Campfire

Research different methods of building a campfire. Have the students gather sticks of different shapes and sizes and some different sources of tinder (paper towels, dead leaves, pine straw, etc). Divide the class into small groups of 3-4 students. After looking over each group's model, discuss what makes each design successful.

Activity 7. Matchstick Forest

Explain that a fire needs three things to start: fuel (such as trees, paper, etc.), oxygen (air), and heat (such as a match or a lightning strike). Create a surface out of wood, cardboard, clay, or soil to put matchsticks on. The matchsticks will represent the trees in a forest. Show the students a few different ways a fire can move across the landscape, by tilting the forest up using a pencil or another object, to have the forest go uphill. Fires always move uphill, but it takes oxygen, or a gush of wind to move the fire. Go over fire safety, and the importance of putting out your campfire at the end of this activity.



Activity 8. Boom-chicka-boom

One of our favorite camp songs here at Burton is boom-chicka-boom. If your class is preparing to come, have the class create new verses to the song to sing along with us. If you have already taken your trip, have a sing-a-long with your students, and create new verses based on things you do at school or things you did on your trip!

Making the best better!