



Stories around the Campfire

(Target Audience: 9-12)

Long before there was writing, there were stories. Prehistoric people probably gathered around the campfire at night and told stories about the big animal they had successfully hunted or the fierce storm last winter. Telling a story is still one of the best ways to use the imagination.

Build a Campfire

Get some short thick branches of real wood (six or seven would be good). Cut some red, yellow and orange cellophane and/or tissue paper in the shape of flames.

On the floor put a lit flashlight. Build the paper flames up around it so that the flashlight can't be seen. Put the wood around and over the cellophane/paper.

Darken the room just a little so that the light can be seen from the campfire.

Tell stories

If you are not comfortable telling a story instead of reading it, then read. You can find lots of handy hints and stories on Aaron Shepard's website

<http://www.aaronshp.com/>

Get up and stretch between stories if you need a break or feel the kids are getting restless.

If you want the children to tell stories, use a story stick, giving the stick to the person who is telling the story. This will help maintain order – only the person with the stick can do the speaking.

For more on story sticks, visit:

http://www.suite101.com/article.cfm/the_art_of_storytelling/114820/2