

S'mores & Stories

By Melissa Shults



S'mores (so named because when people taste them, they usually want "some more") are staple camp treats. Preparing them is half the fun! Make s'mores at home when your camper returns to set the stage for telling stories about his or her time away.

For
Teen Family

Season
Summer (after campers return from camp)

Needed

Graham crackers, marshmallows, chocolate bars, fire and toasting forks or microwave oven, paper towels, something to drink

Prepare in Advance

If you plan to toast your marshmallows over a fire, start a fire in your fire pit or light your grill.

Activity Plan

1. Say this prayer aloud to begin:

God, thank you for the many things that _____ experienced at camp and for bringing him/her home safely. Be with us now as we hear about his/her adventures at camp. Amen.

2. Lay out the graham crackers, which will form the tops and bottoms of the s'mores. Ask your camper: How did you feel at the beginning of the camp session? How did you feel at the end? What were you nervous about when you first arrived at camp? What was the hardest thing to leave behind at the end of camp?
3. Toast the marshmallows over the fire. (Or lay marshmallow on graham cracker and cook in the microwave for 10-15 seconds.) Notice how marshmallows expand when they get hot. Ask your camper: In what ways did you grow during your time at camp?
4. Put squares of chocolate on half the graham crackers. Ask your camper: What is your sweetest memory of camp? What was your favorite part of the day at camp? What is the funniest thing that happened?
5. Put the layers together (graham cracker, chocolate, toasted marshmallow, graham cracker). As everyone eats a s'more, ask your camper: What is one thing you think you'll always remember from your time at camp?
6. After everyone has enjoyed their fill of s'mores, pray aloud, giving thanks for your teen and their camp experience.