

TPE Kids page

CAMPOUT!

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Marshmallows and pharaohs

Summer is the perfect time for pitching a tent, sitting around a crackling campfire with your family and eating marshmallows.

Whether they're toasted on sticks or melted in s'mores, marshmallows are a favorite camping treat. According to the National Confectioners Association, Americans eat 90 million pounds of them every year. That's about the weight of 1,286 gray whales!

Did you know marshmallows were also popular in ancient Egypt? Back then they were made from the marsh mallow plant, a flowering plant that grows in swampy areas. (It's easy to see how the marshmallow got its name.)

The Egyptians squeezed sap from the plant's roots and mixed it with honey. The treat was so prized only pharaohs and other powerful people could eat it.



Today's marshmallows are made from gelatin, egg whites and sugar, not plant roots. The goo is piped through tubes and cut into pieces just right for munching around a campfire.

The Israelites did a lot of camping after they left Egypt. In fact, they camped in the wilderness for 40 years. They probably didn't have any Egyptian marshmallows. But God provided something even better: manna. The Bible says this food from heaven tasted sweet, like honey. It was God's way of taking care of His people.

Next time you camp under the stars or eat a marshmallow, think about the God who created those stars and fed the Israelites in the wilderness. He cares about you, too, and is able to provide everything you need.

"My God will meet all your needs according to his glorious riches in Christ Jesus" (Philippians 4:19, NIV).

Did you know?

The world's largest s'more was made in 2006 at First Landing State Park in Virginia. It contained 8,000 chocolate bars and 40,000 marshmallows.



JUST FOR laughs

When does a campground offer an all-you-can-eat buffet?
When you're a mosquito.

Why did the grizzly bear take the camper's shoes?
He was tired of walking around on his bear feet.



Where is it?

Match the national parks with the correct locations.

- ___ Yellowstone
- ___ Yosemite
- ___ Rocky Mountain
- ___ Great Smoky Mountains
- ___ Everglades
- ___ Grand Canyon

- A. Colorado
- B. Tennessee, North Carolina
- C. Florida
- D. California
- E. Arizona
- F. Wyoming, Montana, Idaho

Answers: F, D, A, B, C, E.

Enter to win!

Set up camp anywhere with this kid-sized tent from Bass Pro Shops. Enter online by April 22 at tpe.ag.org or mail an entry postmarked on or before that date to Tent Giveaway, Today's Pentecostal Evangel, 1445 N. Boonville Avenue, Springfield, Mo. 65802. Include a daytime phone number. You must have a parent's permission to enter.

