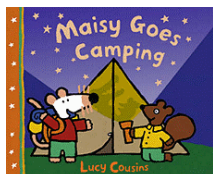




## Camping Read-Aloud Outline

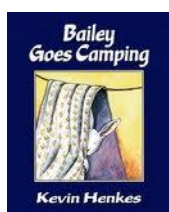
You can create your own camping trip during a Read-Aloud. Set the stage by bringing in a tent, blankets to drape over a table or sleeping bags. Reading with flashlights or creating a fake campfire will also help set the scene.



### ***Maisy Goes Camping*** by Lucy Cousins

Ages 2 to 6

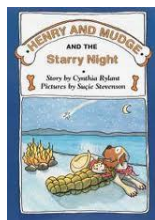
Maisy wants to bring all her friends on her camping trip, even an elephant. What will happen when they all try to fit into the tent?



### ***Bailey Goes Camping*** by Kevin Henkes

Ages 4 to 7

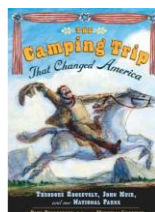
Bailey is too little to go camping with his sister and brother, so his parents help him go camping at home.



### ***Henry and Mudge and the Starry Night*** by Cynthia Rylant

Ages 4 and up

Henry, his mom, dad and Mudge the dog share a camping adventure. Mom has lots of camping skills and Dad has his guitar and a smile. While the humans watch the stars, Mudge enjoys a bone (a log) better than any available at home.



### ***The Camping Trip That Changed America*** by Barb Rosenstock

Ages 6 and up

This nonfiction book tells the story of President Theodore Roosevelt camping with naturalist John Muir in 1903. This experience convinced the Roosevelt to set aside land for the National Park System.

## **More camping books**

### ***Fred and Ted Go Camping*** by Peter Eastman (Ages 3 to 7)

If you love *Big Dog*, *Little Dog*, check out their camping trip in this book.

### ***Angelina and Henry*** by Katharine Holabird (Ages 4 to 7)

The two mice (Angelina from *Angelina Ballerina* and her friend) have fun until it gets dark and they become scared of the big cat.

### ***Camping: A Mr. and Mrs. Green Adventure*** by Keith Baker (Ages 4 to 8)

Mrs. Green is excited to go camping, but Mr. Green isn't quite sure, so they go on a local adventure.

***Amelia Bedelia Goes Camping*** by Peggy Parish (Ages 4 and up)

Amelia "pitches a tent" by throwing it into the bushes! Kids love to be "in on the joke" when Amelia Bedelia hears her own version of common expressions.

***Froggy Goes to Camp*** by Jonathan London (Ages 4 and up)

Froggy worries about being away from home and all the unknowns of summer camp.

***Camping with the President*** by Ginger Wadsworth (Ages 9 and up)

This book is a more complex version of *The Camping Trip That Changed America*, which would work well with older kids.

## **Activities**

1. Set the scene for your Read-Aloud. If you have space, set up a real tent, inside or outdoors. Be sure that everyone can fit inside or take turns. If not, drape blankets over a table and snuggle up under the table (maybe on sleeping bags?) to read your books. Turn off the lights and read by flashlight.

2. Sing camp songs (<http://www.boyscouttrail.com/boy-scouts/boy-scout-songs.asp>) or tell ghost stories (<http://ghostsandstories.com/ghost-stories-for-kids.html>). Make sure to pick ones that aren't too scary.

3. Make s'mores for snack in a microwave or toaster oven. Or, if you don't have equipment, make trail mix.

4. Bring in a map showing the National Parks System and local and state parks in your community. Talk about what the different parks have to offer and why they were created.

5. Bring in small sticks and make campfire art with the sticks and either construction or tissue paper as the flames like this <http://fumblingthroughparenthood.blogspot.ca/2011/05/fire-craft.html>. Or, use toilet paper rolls as the sticks and tissue paper as the flames for a 3-D version.

6. Bring the outdoors inside. Do leaf rubbings and compare the different shapes and sizes of the leaves. Talk about poison ivy and how to identify and avoid it.



## **Conversation Starters**

Have you ever slept outside?

What was it like? Could you see any stars? What sounds did you hear?

Why is a tent useful for camping? (lightweight, easy to set up, vents for air and light, water proof, etc.)

Why do people like to go camping?

What are some of the hassles with camping? (dirt, bugs, cooking over a fire, etc.)