

## Calvert County Great American Campout Nighttime Activities

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### Games That Flash...

- Materials: flashlights, and family or friends
- Play a classic game of **Flashlight Tag!** This game is a hybrid of “tag” and “hide and seek.” The person who is “it” closes their eyes while everyone else hides. “It” has a flashlight. The others hide, and can change hiding spots during the game. Once they’re tagged with the flashlight, they become “it” and a new round starts.
- The game, **Signals**, requires each player to have a flashlight. This game is not only fun, it teaches you how fireflies communicate in the wild.
  - Pair up the players. Each pair creates a flashlight signal. Signals are a series of long and short flashes. For example, two long flashes, then three short.
  - Partners separate, all players scatter throughout a designated area. One person shouts “go!”. All players start flashing signals to find their partners as quickly as possible. The first pair to find each other wins.



### and GLOW in the Dark!

- Materials: glow sticks, plastic water bottles
- Play a game of **Glow Stick Ring Toss**. Set up the water bottles you’ll be tossing the rings onto. Leaving them full will help keep them upright.
- Make rings out of the glow sticks and distribute to players. Players take turns tossing their glow rings and trying to get them around the bottles.
- You can make the game more or less challenging by changing the distance you toss from.
- After you finish the ring toss game, you can use the same materials and a ball to play **Glow Bowling**. Follow the instructions [HERE](#) to play!
- Find more ideas for games and crafts with glow sticks [HERE!](#)



## Look Up! Skywatching Activities

- Stargazing is an awesome pastime that only requires a dark sky and some basic tips to get started. Click [HERE](#) for some beginner tips and tools to get going, and some information on upcoming celestial events you can keep an eye on.
- Learn about the Moon by following this tasty phases of the moon edible activity from our friends at Irvine Nature Center. Click [HERE](#) to follow the video.
- Make a fun moon phase puzzle. Watch the video instructions [HERE](#).



## Campfire Classics

- Nothing beats a night around the campfire singing songs and telling stories. Click [HERE](#) for a list of popular campfire songs that the whole family can enjoy.
- “Once Upon a Time...” Create a story together — the player chosen to begin shares the first few lines of a make-believe story. Storytelling proceeds around the campfire, with each player adding a few more lines to continue the story. Add an additional challenge when playing with older children by having players pat their knees twice and then clap their hands while sharing their story offering. The next player must start his contribution immediately following the last player's clap.



## Animal Encounters

- Nature is literally outside your front door! Turn on your porch light and see which insects come to visit! Our friends at Ijams Nature Center get you started [HERE](#). This BugFinder tool will help you to identify what you see. Click [HERE](#) for the BugFinder.
- Go on a firefly collecting safari. Click [HERE](#) to find out how to capture, observe and release fireflies safely.
- Put on a shadow puppet show! Click [HERE](#) to learn how to use your hands to make cool animal shadow puppets on your tent wall.

