



Summer Reading 2020

Tall Tales around the Campfire

Because the library isn't open, and everyone is mostly stuck at home, we tried to put together a bunch of activities that you can do at home with your family. All of these are meant to just use things you can find around your house - feel free to use substitutions. Be flexible! If there's a writing prompt, and you'd rather draw a picture, go right ahead. Use these ideas as a springboard, and get creative! Some activities may be more appropriate for younger or for older children, so feel free to pick and choose. If you'd like, take a picture of what you made and send it to us at krose@cwmares.org or post it on the library's Facebook page. We miss you all - and would love to hear from you!

Reading throughout the summer is also important! We will keep track of that online this year. Please go to <https://www.milnelibrary.org/children-s-zone> to log your reading (we are tracking number of minutes). Anyone who logs their reading - or sends us a photo of their creations from these activity packets - will be eligible to receive prizes at the end of the summer.

Summer Reading at the Milne Public Library is sponsored by the Friends of the Milne Public Library.

Campfire / Tall Tales

One way that people like to tell stories is sitting around a campfire at night. You can tell fairy tales, or old folk tales, tall tales, ghost stories.... the possibilities are endless! If you have a yard, consider having a campfire - or maybe even camping out! Read in the dark using a flashlight. Don't have a flashlight? That's okay - tell a scary story in the dark! Ghost stories can be funny or spooky or both. Remember the ingredients for s'mores! (If you don't have a campfire, you can also make s'mores over a grill - or in the microwave!)

See here for s'mores tips and ideas:

<https://dinnerthendessert.com/how-to-make-smores-4-ways/>

Or try frozen s'mores:

<https://www.itsalwaysautumn.com/frozen-smores-pudding-marshmallow-sandwiches.html>

Build It | Blanket Fort

Everyone loves a good blanket fort! If you can't go camping, maybe you can camp inside instead. You could also turn your blanket fort into a pirate ship, a dragon's cave, or a magic castle. Get creative!

Write It | Tall Tale Mad Lib

A tall tale is a story with lots of exaggerations or unbelievable parts. For example, if someone saw a strange dog, they might write that they saw a 10 foot tall, three-headed wolf. You can make up your own, or use the mad lib below to write a goofy one:

Tall Tale Mad Lib

Once upon a time there was a _____ (noun) named _____ (name) who was so _____ (adjective) that he could _____ (verb) the _____ (noun). His favorite thing to do was _____ (verb) with the _____ (noun). He had a _____ (animal) named _____ (name) who was so _____ (adjective) that it/he/she could _____ (a favorite activity) in _____ (amount of time). They liked to play together, especially _____ (game). Whenever they played _____ (same game as before), the neighborhood _____ (profession) would hide under their _____ (piece of furniture). One day while they were playing, they found a _____ (mythical creature) who was crying. Its _____ (body part) was stuck in a _____ (noun) and the _____ (same mythical creatures as before) couldn't get loose. So they thought

and thought about what they could do to help. Finally, _____ (same animal as before) had an idea! "Let's _____ (verb) some _____ (noun) onto its paw.

Write It | Paul Bunyan mad lib

Paul Bunyan Mad Lib

Adapted from: Paul Bunyan Tall Tales, by Charles E. Brown. Published 1922.

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Paul Bunyan was a powerful giant, _____ (number) feet tall. He was famous throughout the lumbering districts for his great _____ (adjective) strength. So great was his lung capacity that he called his (plural noun) to dinner by blowing through a _____ (adjective) tree. When he spoke, _____ (noun) sometimes fell from trees. When he had doughnuts for breakfast, they were carried from the _____ (room in a house) by _____ (number) _____ (noun) on poles which they carried on their _____ (body part). Bunyan was assisted in his lumbering by a huge blue (animal) named Babe. This _____ (adjective) _____ (animal) had the strength of nine _____ (plural noun) and it weighed (number) thousand pounds. Its head was so big, it measured seven _____ (plural noun) between the eyes. Its horns were of _____ (adjective) and _____ (adjective). Paul tied a line to their tips and hung _____ (noun) on it to dry. The original color of the animal was pure _____ (color). One _____ (season of the year) it snowed _____ (color) snow for _____ (number) days and the ox lying down in it all _____ (season) was dyed _____ (color). Paul and Babe _____ (verb) a _____ (adjective) house up a hill. In the woods around Paul's camp were _____ (adjective) animals. Some were very wild and _____ (adjective) and others harmless. There was a _____ (animal) which laid square eggs so that they would not roll down the hill.

Craft | Weaving (Cardboard Looms, friendship bracelets, Kumihimo Disk)

Many cultures have weaving as an important craft. It is useful and makes pretty things - and it's fun to do! It also encourages STEAM skills through creating looms and patterns, and celebrates design and stories from different cultures.

Cardboard Looms - MATERIALS AND PREPARATION

You will need:

- Sturdy cardboard
- Rulers
- Pencil
- Scissors
- String or twine
- Yarn in multiple colors, textures, and weights
- Tapestry needles, or popsicle sticks and tape
- Wool rovings (optional)



To prepare cardboard looms:

- Cut cardboard into 8 x 11" pieces.
- Use a ruler to find the middle of the cardboard on one side, then mark every $\frac{1}{4}$ " across the top. Leave about 1" free of marks on either side of the loom.
- Do the same on the opposite side, making sure they line up with the marks on the other side.
- Use scissors or a utility knife to create a tab at each mark. (Get an adult to help with this part!)
- Tie a knot at the end of a piece of string or twine, and wedge it in the first mark on one side. Bring the string across the front of the loom and loop it under the same tab on the opposite side, then back over the front. Continue until the loom is completely covered (each tab has a loop). Tie another knot at the back of your final tab. This is called warping the loom.
- Use yarn and a tapestry needle, or popsicle sticks with yarn taped to the end, to start weaving!

Loom options for circular looms (see Resources for tutorials):

- If you use embroidery hoops, the finished circular weaving is already framed and ready to hang!
- You can make inexpensive circular looms by notching the rims of heavy-duty paper plates.
- You can also make shining looms out of old CDs, no notch cutting required.

RESOURCES

Web Cardboard looms <https://bit.ly/2J9ItW8>

YouTube: How to weave yarn on cardboard from the Metropolitan Museum of Art
<https://bit.ly/2J7aU6S>

Embroidery hoop looms <https://bit.ly/2HvDvjV>

Paper plate looms <https://bit.ly/2UFPjUF>

CD looms <https://bit.ly/1VRIsCg>

Or for a fun wearable alternative to weaving - try making friendship bracelets.

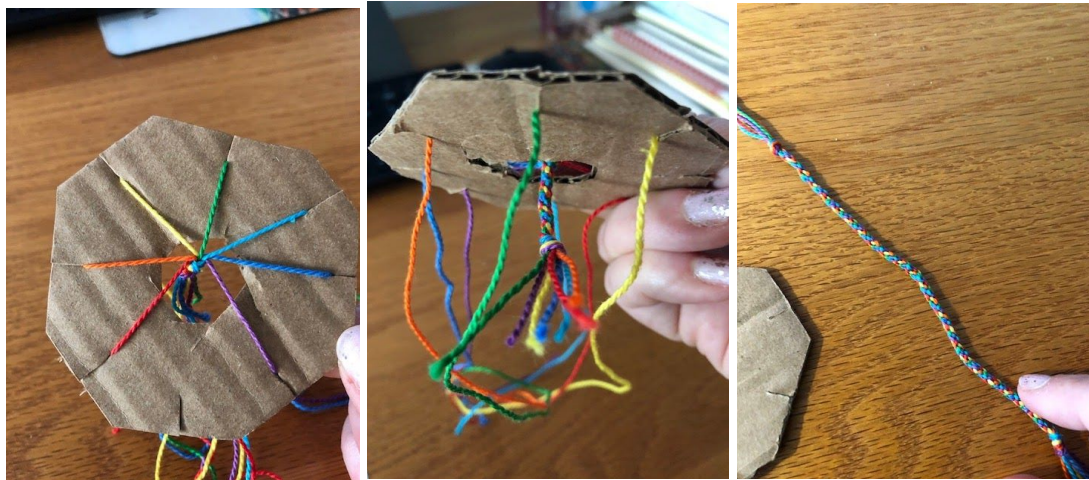
Video Tutorial: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=n2rq-btMNF>

Some patterns: <https://craftjam.co/blog/how-to-make-friendship-bracelets>

An easy pattern for beginners:

<http://adventures-in-making.com/diy-friendship-bracelets-for-beginners/>

If you want another easy option, here's another method, called Kumihimo. This is a Japanese method of braid-making. Below are some pictures of a simple 8-sided disc I made out of a flap from a cardboard box, and the bracelet I made with that:



Kumihimo Resources:

<https://www.redtedart.com/friendship-bracelets-with-cardboard/>

<https://fallfordiy.com/blog/2014/07/06/how-to-make-a-kumihimo-disk/>

Build It | Obstacle Course

Create an obstacle course in your backyard. This can be using whatever you have lying around - pool noodles, jump ropes, boxes, balls, water balloons, sprinklers - or even just draw one with sidewalk chalk!

You might be able to incorporate a tree or bush into your course too - look around your yard and see what features you might be able to use.

See here for ideas: <https://playtivities.com/obstacle-courses-for-kids/>

(There are a few indoor ideas too, if that works better for you.)

Craft | Recycled crafts, collage

Make some art using materials found around your house! Anything is fair game. For some fun ideas, check out these two websites below - or let your imagination run wild! (You can also search online for “recycled crafts” to find plenty more cool project ideas.)

<https://babyology.com.au/lifestyle/things-to-do/play-and-activities/green-crafting-10-of-the-best-recycled-crafts-for-preschoolers/>

(Cardboard cars, rope snakes, egg carton mermaids, fire breathing dragons, egg carton fish, recycled maze, cardboard dinosaur, recycled wall art, junk necklace, collage animal puppets)

<https://www.chicagoparent.com/learn/crafts/earth-day-crafts/>

(Egg carton wreath, tin can planter, bottle cap flowers, recycled crayons, toilet paper roll butterfly, coffee filter planet earth)

Write It | Larger Than Life Hero

If you were the hero or heroine of a Tall Tale, what would you do that is larger than life? Would you be the fastest runner, bake the best pie, or grow the biggest vegetables? Would you be super smart? Write about what you would be known for and what that would help you do.

Play | Checkers

If you don't have a checkerboard at home, you could build a giant checker game! Paint paper plates red and black for the checkers, and use red and black masking tape to create a large checkerboard to the floor.

Or you can play online - cardgames.io has checkers.

