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# **Toasting Marshmallows: Camping Poems**





### Synopsis

Everything that happens when you go camping can be an adventure, from getting dressed inside your sleeping bag on a chilly morning to meeting a moose to sharing secrets in a tent at night. Kristine Oâ <sup>™</sup>Connell George turns the memorable moments of a family outing into spirited, evocative verse, and Kate Kieslerâ <sup>™</sup>s vivid paintings provide a cast of characters and the perfect setting. The captivating poems and pictures in Toasting Marshmallows will leave readers with wonderful memories of a camping tripâ "even if theyâ <sup>™</sup>ve never been on one!

#### **Book Information**

Hardcover: 48 pages Publisher: Clarion Books (April 2001) Language: English ISBN-10: 061804597X ISBN-13: 978-0618045976 Product Dimensions: 0.2 x 8.5 x 10.2 inches Shipping Weight: 13.6 ounces (View shipping rates and policies) Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 stars Â See all reviews (19 customer reviews) Best Sellers Rank: #85,397 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #16 in Books > Children's Books > Sports & Outdoors > Camping #209 in Books > Children's Books > Early Learning > Poetry #527 in Books > Children's Books > Literature & Fiction > Poetry Age Range: 4 - 7 years Grade Level: Preschool - 3

#### **Customer Reviews**

There are, in each of Kristine O'Connell George's books, moments that make you gasp with the depth of insight she's put into words. "Toasting Marshmallows" is no different in that respect and is a joy to read. George has captured the sights, sounds -- and silences that are part of camping. With humor and joy, the camping experience -- from setting up the tent to listening to an owl --is illuminated and enhanced by the words in this delightful book of poems. A treasure for the summer -- and all year round!

Do you have someone in your family who burns their marshmallows black and another who patiently waits for it to turn golden brown? There is a poem for that! If you love poetry and nature, you will love this book! Get your children hooked on poetry with this book!

After serving as a girl scout camp counselor for a summer, the poetry in this book certainly has meaning to me. The poems are wonderfully supported by soft painted illustrations. The story behind the poetry is a girl and her family going on a camping trip together... maybe an annual event. Written in her point of view, there are images of the animals she sees, scenes from the campsite, interactions with her family, introspective reactions to nature and the trip home. I like the poetry itself for its imagery and emotional value. They are short, sweet and to the point, but very meaningful. I think my favorite poem is the one about the girl and her brother arguing about what is making the sounds at night outside their tent.

This will be a family favorite around the campfire. Uses more mature poetic verse than most kids poetry, but still readable and accessible for all ages. Lovely illustrations. I couldn't be happier with this purchase.

Our family loves this book, and identifies with most of the experiences. We bring it on every camping trip and read it by the fire. I wish I could find more books like it.

I read nightly to my boys, 6 and 9. I am not in the habit of choosing poetry books, but we picked this volume up in support of a school assignment, and it has swayed me to look into more poetry for bedtime reading. The language and structure of the poems in Toasting Marshmallows is rich and thought provoking, and the illustrations are simply beautiful. In a couple of instances, the illustrations provided my children a hint about a less-obvious meaning of the poem. The themes of the poems range from lighthearted (do you brown your marshmallows slowly and carefully, or do you rush them and turn them black?) to contemplative (spending peaceful time alone, just being) and wistful (hiding away your camping shirt so that the scent memories won't be washed away in the laundry). In a quiet way the poems are also a tribute to a child's relationships with other family members. Lovely book in all respects. My 9 year old plans to read it next for his Reading Challenge.

Loved the poems and the book is beautifully illustrated. This will be fun to pass around and let everyone read aloud around the campfire. We have three 6 year olds in our group and they should have no problem reading most of the poems.

Writing that pulls you in...illustrations to make you feel like you are there. This is one of my favorite

poetry books! Perfect to read with your children before a camping trip, or under their bedcovers with a flashlight. A perfect book to use during a camping theme for a birthday party or home learning or in a classroom. From nature to tent talk to camping equipment, this book uses glorious words and vivid pictures to take your brain camping.

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