



Operation Purple[®] AT HOME

... Activity Six ...

FAMILY CAMP OUT

Time: 60 minutes+ | Participants: The whole family

Spend time together outside to create a different kind of family night. All family members share their creativity and communicate how to make their outdoor tent. Or if you already have a tent, take it outside and set it up in your yard for a fun night together.

FAMILY MISSION VALUES

Communication, Stewardship and Teamwork

WHAT YOU'LL NEED

- Backyard, patio, or other space big enough for a tent (inside is fun, too!)
- Rope, clothesline, twine, or other tying option
- A place to tie your rope (like a fence, tree branches, PVC pipes, deck, railing, etc.)
- Sheet or tarp for covering
- Stakes or two heavy objects (like chairs, rocks, or books)
- A big trash bag or another tarp to make the tent floor (other options: an air mattress, sleeping bags, yoga mats, couch cushions, comforter, or blanket)
- Blankets and sheets
- Pillows
- Christmas lights, fairy lights, flashlights, lanterns, or glow sticks
- Bug repellent, citronella candles, or tiki torches (outside only!)

INSTRUCTIONS

Use any of the suggested materials or make your own supply list to create your family tent. Your family tent can look however you want and can even be an actual tent if you have one! Please take at least 15 minutes to do each step of the activities below:

.... Activity Six

1. **Brainstorm how you want the tent to look, then discuss together.**

Each member of the family will think about how they want the tent to look, what materials they will need to make their idea a reality, and where the tent will go. You can create one big tent or a few small tents. Once you have your ideas, gather together and talk about your individual ideas.

2. **Gather the supplies you'll need to build your tent and campsite.**

3. **Build your tent!**

- Be mindful of the environment when you begin building. Do not cut down any trees or remove anything from its natural home. Take time to talk about the importance of taking care of our environment and ways we can make sure it's around forever.
- Take the rope, or other material, and tie one end to a nearby object (like a tree or chair), then tie the other end to another nearby object around the same height. This should create a straight line with the rope.
- Drape your cover over the line to form the triangle tent top. Be sure the cover touches the ground on both sides. If it's too high, lower your tied rope.
- Use your heavy objects, or stakes, to weigh down the cover. Be sure to make an entrance/exit for your tent and create enough space inside for your family.
- Make your tent floor or use your patio or deck. If you're outside, lay down a big trash bag or two, so whatever you will be sitting or laying on doesn't get wet, dirty, or damaged.

4. **Decorate inside your tent.**

Set up blankets, add pillows, bring in your light sources, and put on your bug spray! Light any citronella candles outside the tent. If you're inside, no bug spray or citronella candles are needed.

5. **Take a family selfie inside your tent and enjoy quality time together!**

Take part in fun things like cooking and eating dinner outside, play board games in the tent, watch a movie outside with your laptop or other device, check out the stars and moon, and our favorite...make S'MORES!

Mission Accomplished!

WRAP UP

Sit down with your family in a circle or at a table and chat about the activity experience using these questions! Take turns reading a question and listen to each person's response.

- Is this the first time your whole family did a project together or camped outside in your yard?
- Did every family member have input and decide how the tent should be created?
- Was it challenging to create your family tent as a team? If so, how did you embrace the challenge?
- How do you think the tent would be different if you didn't collaborate as a family?
- Do you feel this project helped create a closer family bond?