**Lesson:**  Building a Safe Fire

**Activity:** Edible Fire

**Objective:** Construct an edible fire determining safe and most productive layout procedure.

**Supplies**

* Paper towel
* Paper cups to fill with water
* Candy corn, marshmallows or cheerios (fire ring boundary)
* Shredded coconut (tinder wood)
* Shoe string potato sticks (kindling wood)
* Pretzel sticks (fire logs)
* Red hots or Dorito chips (fire)
* Toothpicks
* Wood (tinder, kindling & fire logs)

**Procedure:**

1. Lay out paper towel (represents the clearing that has to be in an area to make it safe to build a fire.) Discuss safe places to build a fire.
   1. Safe places to build a fire: plain dirt, sand/gravel, rock, open area, away from trees
2. Make a fire ring with cheerios, marshmallows, or candy corn. Repeat importance of safety and why fire rings are important. Explain or show examples of real fire rings. Talk about how they are metal or rocks. Explain how a fire ring needs to be made with material that does not burn.
3. Make three piles of firewood; coconut for the tinder, shoestring potatoes for kindling and pretzels for logs.
4. Before laying the fire, each student needs a cup of water to represent the importance of having a source of water on hand.
5. Determine which way the wind is blowing. Discuss that when it is too windy and/or dry, it is not safe to have a fire.
6. Lay an A or V of logs (pretzels).
7. Lay tinder (coconut) against the crossbar of the A or in the cross of the V.
8. Each students gets a toothpick to represent a match. The match is held under the largest pile of tinder. Drop a few red hots on top to show that the fire is burning brightly.
9. Place kindling (shoestring potatoes) and logs as the fire burns brighter.
10. Students may eat the fire components once it has been approved by instructor.
11. As students drink water discuss how you must always fully extinguish a fire and never leave a fire unattended.

