

SUMMERTIME SLEEPOUTS AND SLUMBER PARTIES

There are two books that kids will eagerly devour are **Slumber Party Book** by Douglas Love (Beech Tree/Morrow, \$6.95) that has nine great preplanned slumber parties for kids to enjoy. Included in this handsome paperback are ideas for invitations, food and recipes, decorations and favors games and more. Kids will enjoy planning and holding parties like the MakeOver Extravaganza, FortuneTeller Party Music Video Party, Princess Party and more. For parents who want to avoid commercialized out-of-home parties, this book is a priceless resource for not just planning, but also getting kids enthusiastically involved in the party planning. Each of these parties "feels" like it's kid-tested, so you'll find it easy to actually pull off the event. At the back of the book are even pages to pull out to make a Memory Book. I would go so far as to say this is the ONLY book of its kind in this price range and format with as many usable ideas in a concise and readable format.

And as if that were not enough, there is a companion volume, **The Backyard Camp-Out Book**, also by Douglas Love (Beech Tree/Morrow, \$6.95)! It has complete plans for overnight adventures with themes. Kids of all ages will enjoy trying the Time Capsule Campout, Rock Hounding Campout, and even a Big Sky Star Gazin

campout. There are dozens of activity ideas, hints, lists of things to bring, and information galore. (like the mnemonic for the names of the planets in order...My Very Educated Mother Just Showed Us Nine Planets from the Star gazing party section). Party details include lists what you need to bring, things to do, and even has a pull out field notebook that you can photocopy for each person, just as the Slumber Party book has a memory pages section you can run on the copier.

These two volumes are great for families with kids who love to have friends stay over and Scout troop leaders who plan outings. Once you have these two books, all you need is a sleeping bag!

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