



Add Some Pop To Your Party With Popcorn

(NAPSA)—Americans love a celebration, especially during the warmer months. For example, three of this country's most important national holidays mark the beginning, middle and end of summer: Memorial Day, Fourth of July and Labor Day.

These holidays have an excitement that comes from more than just having a day off. They're an opportunity to gather with family and friends and celebrate being an American.

An All-American Food

This summer, as you enjoy the many things that make this country great, from baseball to barbecue, blue jeans to blues, be sure to include another all-American favorite—popcorn.

Popcorn is one of the oldest and most beloved American snack foods. It's been around for countless years, yet over time, it has remained a simple little kernel of goodness. Wholesome and whole grain, popcorn costs just pennies per serving.

For a star-spangled snack that'll have you popping with pride, try this recipe courtesy of the Popcorn Board (www.popcorn.org).

Red Hot Poppers

Makes: about 24 balls

Preparation time: 25 minutes

Ingredients:

- 3 quarts popped popcorn
- 4 tablespoons ($\frac{1}{2}$ stick) butter or margarine
- 3 cups miniature marshmallows
- $\frac{1}{2}$ cups red hot cinnamon-flavored candies
- Red and blue confection stars
- Red licorice string



Popcorn is one of the oldest and most beloved of all-American foods.

Directions:

1. Spread a large sheet of plastic wrap onto a work surface and spray with cooking spray.
2. Spray a large mixing bowl lightly with cooking spray and place popcorn inside.
3. In a medium saucepan, melt butter over low heat. Stir in marshmallows until marshmallows are melted and mixture is smooth. Pour over popcorn, adding red hot candies, and mix well until coated.
4. Spray hands with cooking spray and form mixture into 24 balls. Gently press red and blue stars onto balls. Place a piece of licorice string on top of each ball.