



CORNERSTONE 2021 RESOURCE

THIS IS RIDICULOUS: JEWISH CLOWNING 101

Afternoon Experience

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TOPIC (S)	Leadership Skills, Community Building
SUMMARY	Tools for making simple and spectacular moments joyful at camp.
GOALS:	Participants will be able to take the mundane moments of camp and electrify them with fun. Participants will identify the Interstitial opportunities for finding new perspectives and adding cheer. Participants will take initiative and create memorable moments for their campers.
AUDIENCE:	Anyone.
TIMING:	75 minutes
APPENDICES:	Appendix - THIS IS RIDICULOUS
MATERIALS NEEDED:	None but costumes (like a red nose) and props (like a pogo stick) always help.
SET-UP DETAILS:	The goal of this program is to provide elements that can be successful anywhere at any time (the dinner table, the softball field, the pool, etc.)

SESSION TIMELINE

- 00:00-00:05 - Session leaders demonstrate clowning interaction/scene
- 00:05-00:15 - Group breaks down the interaction/scene into pedagogical parts
- 00:15-00:40 - Practice skills
- 00:40-00:50 - Identifying camp moments for potential engagement
- 00:50-00:60 - Planning your 'shtick' and trying it on
- 00:60-00:75 - Debrief

SESSION OUTLINE:

00:00-00:05 - Session leader(s) performs a clowning interaction/scene to introduce concepts, skill sets, and elements of play into the group so that everyone has a shared experience from which to draw on for the work to come.

00:05-00:15 - The group will break down the interaction/scene into pedagogical parts in a conversation that follows the following outline:

- What did we play and how did we play it
 - Physical
 - Verbal/nonverbal
 - Emotional
- What's Jewish about what we did
 - Texts
 - practice

00:15-00:40 - The Session leader(s) will lead the group in a skill building and skill trying workshop to practice elements identified in the previous step. This work will happen first in pairs or small groups and then graduate to the full group.

00:40-00:50 - The group will be led in a brain exercise to list/identify potential moments at camp for engagement and application of these clowning skills

- What moment at camp needs joy? - 20 min
 - Simple
 - Spectacular

00:50-00:60 - The group will plan their 'shtick' and try it on

- What's your shtick?



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- The rabbi is in
 - Rabbi, prophet, judge
- Archetypal clowns - create your own for the summer
 - Rabbinic clown (teach us something, it's ridiculous and everyone comes away learning)
 - Biblical clown (prophet in desert chic)
 - Hebrew clown (learning language)
 - The nonverbal presence of the clown

00:60-00:75 - The Session leader(s) will facilitate a debrief