

# Coming Home: What Does This Look Like At Camp?

Specialty Track 3

AUTHOR(S):	Chana Rothman
TOPIC (S)	Young Children, Leadership Skills
SUMMARY	This session is an opportunity to process and integrate the concepts of child-led play and young people's liberation into the daily rhythms of life at Jewish camp. Since this is the third and final session, there are many opportunities built in for reflection and visioning about the kind of counselor participant wants to be through the lens of child-led play and young people's liberation.
GOALS:	<ul> <li>Participants will be able to: <ul> <li>Describe places within their daily camp schedule they can build in choice and youth-led activities</li> <li>Articulate goals and vision for the kind of counselor they want to be this summer within the framework of young people's liberation (supporting young campers' leadership)</li> <li>Identify what they will need in order to create space for youth-led approaches and spaces at camp</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
AUDIENCE:	This track is for Fellows but could be adapted for any camp staff.
TIMING:	75 minutes
APPENDICES:	Slide show (google slide link: <a href="https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1gzMBm2">https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1gzMBm2</a> ZMIadIHB2Icyt jfPrV61Pn1OuUIv Bkmriw/edit#slide=id.gc7925a3f74 0 11
MATERIALS NEEDED:	This is a flexible session in terms of materials. Since it is being facilitated online, the session leader will be asking people to use what they have around their home. In one section, there will be an art project that can use art supplies, found objects, or online art-making software.
SET-UP DETAILS:	This session takes place online. It could be modified for any space with a little creativity!



#### SESSION TIMELINE

0:00-0:10 - Warm-up (includes games, going over Agenda/Goals, check-in)

0:10-0:30 - Big idea/framing (includes video, text study, break out rooms)

0:30-0:45 - Hands-on activity

0:45-0:60 - Debrief/framing

0:60-0:75 - Wrap up (includes debrief, questions for tomorrow, and adaptations/modifications)

# **SESSION OUTLINE:**

0:00-0:10 - Warm-up (includes games, going over Agenda/Goals, check-in)

Session facilitator also offers participants the opportunity to lead an icebreaker. If no one engages, session facilitator runs the following game:

# "Red Light, Camera Off"

The person whose turn it is finds something around them that is red, and something that is green. They hold up the red item and sing "Red light, camera off!" Everyone except the leader turns off their camera. Then the leader sings "Green light, camera on!" and everyone turns their camera back on. Then another leader is selected.

Sometimes participants will add other colors, like "Yellow light, go slow" or "Blue light, super speed," etc. (I co-created this game with a 5-year-old in the class I was teaching.)

**0:10-0:30 - Big idea/**framing (includes video, text study, break out rooms)

Session facilitator offers time and space to process the previous two sessions' worth of material. Specifically, the facilitator asks if anyone has had any questions or new ideas about free play/child-led play.

Looking through their daily camp schedule, participants reflect on which type of play happens at the moments throughout the day. Participants and facilitator reflect on the questions:

- 1. Where are the places we can build child-led (free) play into camp?
- 2. What would you need in order to create more opportunities for child-led play at camp?
- 3. How do you frame this in terms of young people's liberation and Jewish values? What language do you use with co-workers, supervisors, and campers?

#### 0:30-0:45 - Hands-on activity



Take some time to jot down:

- What you will need in order to create space for youth-led approaches and spaces at camp
- Anything you're wondering
- Things you want to remember
- Contact info of other people from this session
- Next steps for you
- Goals and vision for the kind of counselor you want to be this summer within the framework of young people's liberation (supporting young campers' leadership)
- Any "aha" moments

In small groups, participants create a "Mizrach."

A Mizrach (Hebrew for east,) refers to a wall hanging designating this direction to help people pray facing east, or toward Jerusalem.

In this case, the Mizrach will remind them of their spiritual Jerusalem - the place they want to be heading as a counselor of younger campers. What are the reminders they want to make visible and beautiful?

Participants can make their Mizrach in many ways:

- using whatever art supplies they have nearby
- using an online art platform like Canva or Jamboard
- using found objects outdoors or in their immediate environment and taking a photo

# 0:45-0:50 - Debrief/framing

Participants share Mizrach art pieces in the larger group. Participants are invited to add anything to their piece as they listen to others describe their visions, dreams, goals, and reminders.

# 0:50-0:75 - Wrap up

This is the final session. Session facilitator encourages participants to use this time for reflection, plans, goal-setting, any lingering questions, processing. *Closing slide reads:* 

Thank you for doing this work! Your campers are lucky to have you as their "parent" for the summer.

Please get/stay in touch!



# I love to hear:

- Questions
- Success stories
- Challenges
- Anything else you want to share!

# BRINGING IT BACK TO CAMP & SHIFTING TO IN PERSON:

This session includes multiple ways for participants to process big ideas and how to incorporate them into their life as people and specifically as counselors at their Jewish camp.

Participants can shift these modalities around for use in different settings:

- Mizrach / wall hanging
- Games to reinforce relationships
- Jotting down notes to remember big ideas
- Giving participants the opportunity to facilitate and take leadership