

Creatively Creating Creation: Understanding God as an artist, *Specialty Track 2*

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SUMMARY:	Participants will practice using basic and affordable printmaking techniques and tools to create stunning images. These techniques can be used for a million projects at camp that will elevate camp's Arts & Crafts program to the next level. Campers will - <i>Submitted by Daniel Abramson</i>
TOPICS:	Jewish Text, Meditation, Teen Programs, Visual Arts, Young Children
LEARNING OBJECTIVE:	This workshop will model how we can help any camper feel like a true artist. All it takes to shift from crafts to fine art at camp is tweak in the way the we use some basic materials. Using text from the story of the days of creation, participants will also learn how the arts can be the best tool to help kids connect meaningfully and personally with Jewish learning.
AUDIENCE:	This program can be run for campers of all ages. For young campers, you can use pre-made shapes for stamping. You can also focus on just one moment from the creation story so that young campers are not overwhelmed by having too many choices or decisions about their art. For older campers, you can incorporate calligraphy and text using more advanced techniques in their artwork.
LENGTH:	30-60 Minutes
APPENDIXES:	Creation Story 1
MATERIALS:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Printmaking Brayers (4 inch rubber rollers) - 1 per participant plus one per colour of ink • Scratch-Art Scratch-Foam Soft Surface Printing Board - 2 per participant http://www.dickblick.com/products/scratch-art-scratch-foam-soft-surface-printing-board/ • Water-Soluble Block Printing Inks - 5oz tubes of red, blue, yellow, black, white, green, brown http://www.dickblick.com/products/blick-water-soluble-block-printing-inks/ • Acrylic Clear sheets - 1 per participant plus one per colour of ink. http://www.dickblick.com/items/18973-1008/ • 11x14 Watercolour paper (cold press 90lb) - 5 per participant http://www.dickblick.com/items/10145-2175/

Session Description:

5 minutes (Introduction and inspiration)

Questions for reflection:

- Describe God's artistic process.
- What does God create first?
- Is there anything strange about the order of creation?
- What feelings did God have about the creation as it was being created?
- What other senses might be involved in creation? Was there a sound in creation? Was there a sense of touch? A smell or taste?

10 minutes (Instructions about process and materials)

Facilitator will demonstrate the use of tools and materials that will be used to make the artwork. Different techniques can be researched and used depending on budget and materials available at camp. You should be prepared to do some internet research and try some different things at camp.

30 minutes (making the artwork)

Participants create their artwork

10 minutes (Show and share)

Once the participants have completed the artwork and cleaned up the materials, line up all the art on the table and ask participants to walk around the room and choose something great in somebody else's work or about their own experience in making art that they would like to comment on.

Facilitator reads a part of the creation story where God evaluates the creation and says that "It was good". Then the facilitator highlights that when we look for, find, and articulate what is good in our artistic creations we are learning an important idea of artistic practice from a Jewish text. We learn that as artists, we have to always look for the good in the world and in art.

טוב-כי האורת-את אלהים וירא

And God saw the light, that it was good;

Every takes a turn saying something about other people's work.

Additional Notes for Bringing it Back to Camp:

All of the printmaking techniques can be used to make great images of almost anything, so the program can be adapted to explore other ideas by changing the core text that is used to introduce the project. Further, you can alter the size and shape of the final artwork, and make items like cards or bookmarks if these better suit the goals of your specific program.

There are a ton of other techniques that you can learn about. Visit the library before camp or do an internet search to find some other ways that you can use printing inks at camp. One great resources is downloadable from <http://art.utk.edu/printmaking/resources/PrintmakingonaBudget.pdf>

APPENDIXES:

CREATION STORY 1