Israeli Culture Unplugged

Specialty Track 3

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **AUTHOR(S):** | Tomer Moked |
| **SUMMARY:** | Settlers of Israel - Using board games as a tool to tell a story about Israel in a social and fun way*. – Submitted by Tomer Moked* |
| **TOPIC(S):** | Israeli Culture |
| **LEARNING OBJECTIVE:** | 1. Playing with your imagination educates about Israel outside of the box. 2. Working with board games is creative and educational. |
| **AUDIENCE:** | Ages 7 and up |
| **TIMING:** | 90 minutes |
| **APPENDICES:** | Handout 1- Knesset  Handout 2 - the envelopes |
| **MATERIALS NEEDED:** | 30 pens  30 blank papers  Large Post-it board  Board games: Catan, Monopoly, Clue, Pack of Taki Cards. (1 of each)  Card games  4 packs of playing cards.  8 dice  4 rolls of tape  A dry spaghetti pack  Kosher marshmallow pack blue and white.  20 Israel flag toothpick  4 envelopes  Speakers (for music) |
| **SET-UP DETAILS:** | Large room, 4 tables  A chair for each participant can be set around tables. |

**Session Timeline & Outline:**

**Opening activity: House of Cards - the Knesset. (20 min)**

* Split the large group of participants into 4 different groups. Each group gets a “House of Cards Kit”:
  + Deck of cards
  + Knesset Handout 2
  + A die,
  + Tape
  + 15 strands of dry spaghetti
  + A blue marshmallow.
* Ask participants to use as many tools they have in their kit to build a 3D model inspired by the Israeli Knesset - The Parliament House.
* They will have 12 minutes to build it with the tools they have; they should try to use all of them. Extra points for creativity and using everything in the tool kit!
* When they are done, let them present their models; have the group choose a winner.

Quick Discussion:

1. What did you learn from this activity?
2. What was this program about?

**Main Activity: Board Games Hack (45 min)**

* After directions are given, and the participants set themselves up for the games, they will have approximately 30 min for their missions!
* Place a different game on each of 4 different tables: Catan, Monopoly, Clue, Pack of Taki Cards.
* Ask for experts: Ask the group if there is anyone who is an expert in one of those games. Allow the experts to take a place by the game. Allow the rest of the group to select any table they choose, as long as there is room. (You want to have even numbers around each table, so feel free to lead the placements).
* If you do not have experts, you can choose a volunteer to search online for instructions and teach everyone else. The session leader also will have printed copies of the instructions on hand.
* Each team will have to hack the game and will try to see it through the lens of Israel.
* Each team also will get a secret envelope. The envelope will reveal the directions they need to take when hacking the game.
* Let the groups start; the facilitator will walk around to give them more direction, if needed.

**Presentation: (15 min)**

Let each group present its new game and answer questions for 3-to-4 min.

**Final discussion: (10 min)**

1. What is gaming and what are games for?
2. What narrative did you create about Israel through the game?
3. What is important and what isn’t important to you when you create a game? Why?
4. How can we bring it back to camp?

**Closing Words - Specialty Track Israeli Culture Unplugged (15 min)**

* And time for questions....

**Additional Notes for Bringing it Back to Camp:**

You can do all of this session or parts of it with your staff and CITs to create cool games to play.

Plan in advance and ask your Program Director to help you produce a board game you have created.

Sometimes it’s not too expensive to make it yourself in arts & crafts!