

Camp Friedberg 2017 Weekly Judaic Themes Draft (as of 5/12/17)

Each week's theme will be supported by books, art projects and plays that will be utilized by the Judaics Specialist, working with other staff, most notably the Music Specialist, in the creation of specific programs that integrate art, music and drama. PJ Library materials will be used. The idea of being a mensch will be integrated each week via the different themes and signage that will illustrate the theme.

Week 1: (June 26-30): Making a Good Name (Shem Tov)

Welcoming, community, people & Jews are all connected as one family, finding the similarities between us and what it means to have a "Good Name" with each other

Activities:

- "Welcoming back" last year's favorite camp rituals- Mensch Board, Friday Shabbat Program, other
- Scavenger Hunt
- Crest-making- each camper makes a crest that symbolizes her/his name, and describes them in words, pictures, etc

- Launch of Kindness Rocks Project
 - Collection of smooth flat stones
 - Painting with non-toxic acrylic paint or spray paint
 - Discuss sayings from history, culture, traditions

Week 2: (July 3-7) Friendship, Inclusion and Diversity

COMPASSION/ RACHAMIM

"And you shall have compassion for your friend as for yourself..."(Onkelos Leviticus 19:1)

With compassion, or rachamim, we can share our abilities as mensches with those around us. We have the ability to create the kind of positive community at camp that can only be created when we have compassion for others.

Camp is a special place to make new friends and strengthen old friendships.

Camp is a place that values full inclusion of everyone, no matter their background, or ability

Activities:

- New friendship “rituals”
- Examples of friendship from the Torah and from other faiths and traditions
- Friendships bring light into the world
- Making Shabbat Candles/candlesticks

Week 3: (July 10-14) : Tikkun Olam Week- The Fight Against Poverty

SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY/ACHRAYUT

“Being human means being conscious and being responsible. By becoming responsible agents for social change we actualize not only our humanity but also our mission as Jews.”

– Viktor Frankl

Social Responsibility, or Achrayut, creates mensches who are ready to help others! As we spend time at camp we learn how our actions impact those around us.

Camp Friedberg will be transformed for this week-:different colors, different activities, a different way of making camp meaningful via community service.....all to send a powerful message that we can make a difference in fighting poverty

Activities:

- Collection and Tzedakah drives for anti-poverty organizations
- Toiletry drive? Penny drive? Canned food drive? Tie Dye shirt making? Tzedakah boxes?
- Camp-wide Aqua Run on Thursday?
- Maimonides’ Ladder as a Jewish perspective on poverty

Week 4: (July 17-21): Israel Week

Israel will permeate the camp atmosphere this week. Group activities will build each day and culminate in the HKC wide Israel day on Thursday

Activities:

Lego competition with other camps

Kick the Can

Israeli food making

Thursday UJA Israel Day with Israel Scouts and activities with other camps

Week 5: (July 24-28) :Shalom- Camp as a place of peace

WHOLENESS & PEACEFULNESS/SHLEIMUT

“I get those fleeting, beautiful moments of inner peace and stillness – and then the other 23 hours and 45 minutes of the day, I’m a human trying to make it through in this world.”

– Ellen DeGeneres

Wholeness & Peacefulness, or Shleimut, is a key aspect of being a mensch! We are able to fill ourselves up with the things that make us happiness at camp, and once we are full we are able to achieve inner peace

Peace is a universal value- how does Camp Friedberg reflect this?

Activities

- Creation of Camp Friedberg peace quilt
- Activities in morning to support an organization that is working to make the world a peaceful place
- Teaching campers practical skills on making peace within themselves and with others
- Yoga/Meditation- ways of making the body and mind quieter and more peaceful
Conscious Listening- how to listen more closely to someone else
Making peace between friends/family who are fighting
- Stories about Aaron (Moses’ Brother) and ways that he kept peace between others
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Week 6: (July 31-August 4): Ruach (Spirit) Week

ZEST & ZEAL

“Just as food eaten without appetite is a tedious nourishment, so does study without zeal damage the memory by not assimilating what it absorbs.”

– Leonardo da Vinci

Zest & Zeal, or Zerizut, adds flavor to being a mensch! While at camp we get to experience first hand that learning can be fun, exciting, and exhilarating when you have a hunger for it.

Activities:

- Mon-Wed: Color War
- Friday program will be a Magical Shabbat (Mensch Cards only part of existing program to be done)

Week 7: (Aug 7-11) : The Camp Friedberg Community: Our strength is our diversity

COMMUNITY MINDEDNESS

"We are tied together in a single garment of destiny, caught in an inescapable network of mutuality. And whatever affects one directly affects all indirectly."(Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.)

Community Mindedness, or *Areyvut*, is an important part of being a mensch! We are given the unique opportunity at camp to see how our actions can contribute to a beautiful community experience.

The strength of our Camp Friedberg community is in the many kinds of campers that comprise the community. This week's activities will highlight how our community is created from and enriched by our diversity.

- PJ Library books with diversity theme
- Art projects/ Mini-Plays/Music that highlights the power of diversity
- Campers using art/music/theatre to build a Mosaic of different identities
- The diversity within the 12 Tribes of Israel-and their unity within that diversity

Week 8: (August 14-18): Gratitude and Forgiveness

Programs and activities will explore the way that gratitude shapes our lives, whether we are in camp, at school, at home, or anywhere.

GRATITUDE/HAKARAT HA TOV

"Who is rich? Those who rejoice in their own portion."

(Pirkei Avot 4:1)

With gratitude, or hakarat hatov, we are thankful for everything around us, even our label as a mensch! We have the ability to step back at camp and reflect on all the great aspects of our lives.

Making Jewish New Year's Cards

Ways to connect to Rosh Hashanah/Yom Kippur

FORGIVENESS/MECHILA

“Acceptance, tolerance, and forgiveness, those are life-altering lessons.”

– Jessica Lange

Forgiveness, or Mechila, is a key aspect of being a mensch! Because of the community camp creates, we know each other well enough to understand our good intentions and find forgiveness in our hearts. And we are ready to extend the act of forgiveness to others as the Jewish Holidays of Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur approach.