

Planning for Program Success in Nature – or Anywhere Elective 2

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| AUTHOR(S): | Josh Lake |
| SUMMARY: | In this session we will use experience to help prepare for success in the creation of programs. We will spend time in nature having fun, setting goals, and thinking through creating a camp activity. You will experience a program and use the experience to build your own programs. - <i>Submitted by Josh Lake</i> |
| TOPIC(S): | Experience and then create fun and meaningful programs. |
| LEARNING OBJECTIVE: | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Experience something new in nature 2. Have fun 3. Learn something new from/about nature 4. Make friends in nature (with or without people) 5. Form a relationship with the natural world that can be reflected on/carried in to future |
| AUDIENCE: | Perfect for counselors or other people creating programs for campers. 10-20 participants is best |
| TIMING: | 90 minutes |
| APPENDICES: | Program Creation Cheat Sheet, Anne Frank quote, Meet a Tree |
| MATERIALS NEEDED: | Oak Gall, Nautilus shell, Bandanas. |
| SET-UP DETAILS: | Nature. Somewhere outside. Preferably under an oak tree. |

SESSION TIMELINE & OUTLINE:

Timing:

00-40 minutes

- Oak Gall story with Torah
- Share nautilus and Fibonacci sequence
- Share a few quotes about Judaism/life that have to do with nature
 - *Eitz Haim Hei, pokieach ivrim, shoreshim, Ann Frank quotation*
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- Experiential program in nature
 - Meet a Tree, Pokieach Ivrim (see appendices)

How to create a program from nada:

- 1 Identify audience. Campers, staff, friends?
- 2 What is your timing/schedule? This informs everything!
- 3 Set goals (What/how do you want your audience to look/feel/act/do after session?)
- 4 What content will you use to help achieve your goals
- 5 What materials do you have/do you need for your goals to come alive/be successful?

Time for planning: Individual/Hevruta reflection time. Create a program addressing each of these areas:

Audience:

Who, when, where, timing (how long do you have with group)

Goals:

1. Why? (Why are people attending program? To have fun? To learn something? To rehearse? To...?)
2. How do you want your audience to look/feel/act/do after session?

Content:

1. Generate interest. How do you get the participants interested?
2. What/how will you engage your audience? Planning the right amount of content.
3. Values: Are there any values that your program will transmit. How are these addressed?
4. How does your content engage with your goals? Your participants?
5. Is your content fun? Would you want to do this activity?
6. How do people remember? Repetition. Do you start and end with same idea? Thread the experience.

Materials:

1. What things/stuff do you need to make goals come alive?
2. What do you have? (Think about easy to obtain materials).
3. What is your budget, if any?
4. When do you need it by? (Get materials together 1 day in advance? 1 hour?)

Actual experience (content)

- Oak Gall story with Torah
- Share nautilus and Fibonacci sequence
- Share a few quotes about Judaism/life that have to do with nature
- Experiential program in nature with someone else. (Meet a Tree, Buber, *hitbodedut*)
- Time to create their own “experience” that includes goal setting, content, supplies needed.

40-55 minutes

Share goals of the program, open it up and unpack it

- This is what my goals were/are...
- This program was/is designed for you to build your own programs
- Here is my outline for program creation

Audience:

Who, when, where

Goals:

Why. How do you want your audience to look/feel/act/do after session?

Content:

What. What/how will you engage your audience? Planning the right amount of content

Materials:

- What do you need to make goals come alive?
- What do you have? (Think about easy to obtain materials)

55-70 minutes

Time for planning: Individual/Hevruta reflection time. Create a program addressing each of the above areas: Pass out Program Creation Cheat Sheet.

Break into Hevruta (teach the meaning of the word) for time to plan a session.

Individual time is o.k.

Fill out the Program Creation Cheat Sheet.

You will present your program to another Hevruta group, so RULE OF P's (Preparation Prevents Problems!)

70-85 minutes

Present to larger Hevruta group

85-90 minutes

PPP (RULE OF P'S) will go far for you at camp!

- Preparation prevents problems
- Practice permeates perfection