

Working Together: Patience

AUTHOR(S):	Ari Kaplan, Zahava Davis, Abby Kaufman, Josh Satok
SUMMARY:	Staff will participate in a simulated activity around patience with unexpected obstacles that they must overcome.
TOPIC(S):	Team Building, Patience, Music
LEARNING OBJECTIVE:	Working as a team. Developing / cultivating patience.
AUDIENCE:	Counselors, specialists, general staff
TIMING:	20 minutes
APPENDICES:	List of limitations/obstacles
MATERIALS NEEDED:	N/A
SET-UP DETAILS:	

Program Timeline:

0:00- 0:08: Interpretive Dance Preparation

0:08-0:14: Performance

Right before performance, other half of groups receive party guest quirks

0:14-0:20: Pirkei Avot Debrief

Interpretive Dance Preparation (8 minutes):

Staff is split into 2-3 groups (or more... no more than 6 people/group). Before the groups begin, explain that half of the group will take a piece of paper and that it is up to them if they will share what is on the piece of paper or not with their group. Have one half of the group take a piece of paper that lists a certain characteristic or instruction.

Instruct each group that they have 6 minutes to work together to design an interpretive dance (60 seconds) to a song from the list and/or one that they have access to listen to. Ask them to create an interpretive dance and that others will need to guess their song without hearing it... only watching the dance.

Bring everyone back and decide on an order for the presentations.

Performance (6 minutes ... or ~2 minutes/group):

Just before the performance, ask everyone who didn't have a piece of paper before, to pick one now. Then send them up to perform.

Ask the audience to guess what each groups song is!

Debrief (6 minutes):

Ask the following questions of the group, encourage them to answer them among their small group.

- How did you deal with the challenge that you were given? Why did/did you not tell your group what you were working with?
- How did you adjust based on other people's behaviors or what you learned about them?

Share this text from Pirkei Avot 2:5:3:

ולא הקפדן מלמד. אין צריך לרב שיהיה כעסן ולא רוחו קצר אך רוחב לב ומשיב לכל אדם בכל דבר (שיש לו) שישאלו גם כי יתקשו מלהבין תשובתו. יחזירה אליהם עד שירדו לעומקו של דבר

An impatient person cannot teach: It is not needed that a teacher be angry nor that he be short of [patience]; but rather [he should] be magnanimous and answer everything (that he has) that they ask. Even if they have difficulty in understanding his answer, he should review it for them until they come to the depth of the matter.

Explain that in our work at camp, we are each to embody the characteristic of the teacher in Pirkei Avot - for our work together and for our work with campers or other staff members. The onus is on each of us to support each other - by sharing challenges when appropriate and by seeking to work together towards understanding.

As a whole group, encourage staff members to consider the things that might be getting in the way of getting the tasks of camp done. Are there things that you might want to share with your co-staff? What could you be noticing and adapting to without being told exactly why?



FJC PD RESOURCE

Characteristics

Hear/do everything 4 seconds later

Be distracted / preoccupied / on your phone for the first 2-3 minutes of planning

Don't talk at all

Mix up your right and your left

Disagree with everything one person suggests and agree with everything that a different person suggests

Wait until the group agrees... and then suggest an alternative

Songs

Party in the USA

Ain't No Mountain High Enough

I Want It That Way

Call Me Maybe

Genie in a Bottle

I Wanna Dance With Somebody

... or anything you have access to listen to while designing the dance.