

Play to Pray: DIY Tefillah

Elective

AUTHOR(S):	Asya Gribov
SUMMARY:	Participants will learn about book making and create an interactive and fun experience to help campers understand and make tefilla (prayer or services) more engaging at camp. - Submitted by Asya Gribov
TOPIC(S):	Prayer Alternative, Young Campers
LEARNING OBJECTIVE:	Participants will rethink when and how prayer happens in camp. Participants will create their own prayer books to be used in camp.
AUDIENCE:	Staff, 10-30 people
TIMING:	60-90 minutes
APPENDICES:	N/A
MATERIALS NEEDED:	Small mirrors Cardboard or cardstock Paper Sharpies, markers, color pens Siddur Camp Prayer Books
SET-UP DETAILS:	Any room set up that fits the participants comfortably.

SESSION TIMELINE & OUTLINE:

Discussion:

- What are your personal memories or experiences of prayer as a child?
- What are some of the challenges of prayer services in your camp?
- How are young campers engaged in prayer services at your camp?
- What do you wish prayer looked like at your camp?

CORNERSTONE 2019 RESOURCE

- Framing:
 - It's important for children to first understand what prayer is and why we pray before reciting the blessings.
 - By building this prayer journal, children will hopefully be able to understand and reflect on their experience that then can be translated into prayer and services.
 - Prayer is a time for us to look into ourselves, reflect on our actions, thoughts, wishes, goals.

- Intro into DIY Prayer Book:
 - Looking closely into oneself is an important part of prayer: This is represented by the mirror in the DIY Prayer Book.
 - Taking a moment to appreciate the wonders around us- to be radically amazed by the greatest or smallest things is an important part of prayer: This is represented by the window in the DIY Prayer Book.
 - Participants work as a group to determine what are other moments of prayer at camp and create a journal prompt page for each of these moments. Examples:
 - Morning / Evening/ Shabbat
 - Eating
 - Learning a new skill
 - Making a new friend
 - 1st time experiences
 - Last time experiences
 - Etc.

- Put together the DIY Prayer Book/ Journal:
 - Glue small mirrors onto 1 of the cardstock sheets
 - Cut out a window from 1 of the cardstock sheets
 - Place 15 sheets of paper with the prayer prompts (folded in half) between the two cardstock sheets.
 - Use string to bind all the pages into a book.

Closing:

- How can this prayer book be used in your camp?
- What modifications would you be able to make?