

## CORNERSTONE 2019 RESOURCE

### Team Building and Group Dynamics (Part 2) *Specialty Track*

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| <b>AUTHOR(S):</b>          | Meir Balofsky  |
| <b>SUMMARY:</b>            | Understanding, Appreciating and Strengthening Differentiated Learning Styles. How to achieve your goals through different methods – Submitted by Meir Balofsky   |
| <b>TOPIC(S):</b>           | Communication Skills, Community Building, Leadership Development   |
| <b>LEARNING OBJECTIVE:</b> | Learn to appreciate and maximize what each person in your group / team brings to the table. Engage in a variety of modalities to bring out the best in everyone. |
| <b>AUDIENCE:</b>           | All ages – 25 max  |
| <b>TIMING:</b>             | 90 minutes   |
| <b>APPENDICES:</b>         | 4 children of the Passover Seder   |
| <b>MATERIALS NEEDED:</b>   | 1 ream of paper, markers, flip chart, plastic silverware – 10 forks, knives, spoons. 20 mardi gras beads. 6 cardboard boxes. Plasticine                          |
| <b>SET-UP DETAILS:</b>     | Large space – no furniture   |

#### SESSION TIMELINE & OUTLINE:

“As counselors and Jewish educators, most of you will be forgotten”

- Discuss what makes a teacher memorable. How do you make a real difference as an educator?

#### WARM UP **THROW AN ALLIGATOR**

- An icebreaker with the goal to get the group in a more playful loose mood.
- Line up the group into two parallel lines. Have them stand about 3 feet apart. One line is told that they are each holding a basketball. They are then to “throw” the basketball to their partner. Throwers must react to throwing a basketball and the receivers must react to catching it.
- Repeat with. Beach ball. Cactus. Bunny Rabbit. Alligator.
- Allow the participants to embrace their imagination and break down the barriers to fun interaction.

### **Breakout – Jewish Holiday Song Session**

Participants are to get into groups of which is their favorite Jewish Holiday. After finding the groups, they are to take a couple of minutes and share why they chose that group. They are then to declare their group to everyone by singing a song of their choice from that holiday

Distribute 12 sheets of paper and a marker to each group.

Ask the following questions – As a team they must settle on an answer which they write on the paper.

Round 1:

How many people here go to a camp in Canada?

How many people will be at their camp for 10 or more years as of this summer?

How many people here have been to Israel in the last 5 years?

How many people here use Hebrew in their camp?

Round 2:

How many people here play an instrument?

How many people here listens to Jazz music?

How many people here have been to an art gallery in the last 12 months?

How many people here have been to a professional sports event in the last 12 months?

Round 3:

How many people studied science in school, every year since first grade?

How many people here know CPR well enough to teach it?

How many people here know ANYTHING about how do develop and create an App?

How many people here have played a full round of golf? (not mini)

**After each round – review the answers and score the team** - Each team reveals their guess, and then by show of hands finding out the answers. (*a fun opportunity to discover the diversity of who is in the group*)

### **HAGGADAH LESSON**

Distribute the handout from the Passover Haggadah.

Discuss the structure of the Haggadah as a teaching tool document - and that the goal of the seder is to educate all participants on why “tonight is different”

Discussion of the 4 students and Identify their learning styles. Open minded – closed minded – simple – and the disengaged.

### **Recipe mix**

Take a number of recipes and cut up the instructions into their own pieces of paper. Everyone is to then pick a paper and they must find the rest of their recipe.

### **TIME / TALENT / TORAH**

In the new groups the following challenges will be presented.

#### **The first challenge is for TIME**

Each team must assign a time keeper who will start and stop a stopwatch timer for each task. When each task is completed the watch stops and is continued for the next task when it's announced.

Task 1- Create a group secret handshake and everyone must contribute an idea

Task 2- Prepare an epic speech everyone must contribute only 1 sentence and it must all make sense.

Task 3 – Make a wonder of the world

Task 4 – Make a team cheer

After each team declares themselves “ready” the stopwatch is stopped. Each group presents and then the new task is presented.

Once we are done all the tasks the teams must declare their total times. Rather than then rank them by the fastest time – total the digits and whichever sum is highest is the ‘winner’.

### **The second challenge is for TALENT**

Each group member must teach a ‘talent’ to the rest of the group

### **The third challenge is for TORAH**

Each group member is to share a Jewish teaching or an important moment in their Jewish identity.

*So you think you're funny! On the first day have the group each write down a joke a first grader would find funny – joke must have one line question and answer. Before the session choose half the jokes and prepare papers with questions and the answers. Everyone gets one paper and must find their question or punchline partner. After doing so – They find another two pairs to join with. Share the joke with each other. Then they share with the whole group what the decided is the funniest of the three.*

*This new group does the following task:*

### **SEE – RUN – BUILD**

Each team will assign, the "see-ers, the runners and the builders". There will be an elaborate design / structure of composed of many different part. (Construction paper cut into shapes, cups, plates, forks, pipe cleaners, string). The see-ers look at the thing and run to another station where the runners are waiting. They tell them what they saw (describe a part of it). The runners run to another room where the builders are waiting with the bag full of the same material that the structure is made of. The runner has to describe to them how to build it. Since they will not be able to describe it all at once they have to keep running back in forth. See-ers cannot run straight to the builders they have to go through the runners, etc. the 1st team to build the structure wins.

**Conclusion – Discuss the value of games and activities that use different skill sets and allow different people in the group to shine!**

- **If time permits add one of the team building games found at the end of session 3**

### Team building and Group Dynamics, Session #2 Text Handout 1

The four children at the Seder - From the Passover Haggadah

**Blessed is the Omnipresent One, blessed be He!** Blessed is He who gave the Torah to His people Israel, blessed be He! The Torah speaks of four children: One is *Chacham*, one is *Rasha*, one is *Tam* and one is *She'ayno Yodeah Lishol* – (*one who does not know how to ask*)

**The Chacham one, what does he say?** "What are the testimonies, the statutes and the laws which the L-rd, our G-d, has commanded you?" You, in turn, shall instruct him in the laws of Passover, [up to] `one is not to eat any dessert after the Passover-lamb.'

**The Rasha one, what does he say?** "What is this service to you?!" He says `to you,' but not to him! By thus excluding himself from the community he has denied that which is fundamental. You, therefore, blunt his teeth and say to him: "It is because of this that the L-rd did for me when I left Egypt"; `for me' - but not for him! If he had been there, he would not have been redeemed!"

**The Tam, what does he say?** "What is this?" Thus you shall say to him: "With a strong hand the L-rd took us out of Egypt, from the house of slaves."

**As for the one who does not know how to ask**, you must initiate him, as it is said: "You shall tell your child on that day, `It is because of this that the L-rd did for me when I left Egypt.'"