

Theater: Creating Something from Nothing (Part 3) *Specialty Track*

AUTHOR(S):	Melissa Shaw
SUMMARY:	This specialty track will delve into the awe of what it means to create, to have created, and to have been created. Together, we will learn camper-friendly methodologies to help shape and develop your theater specialty and how to go from the "formless void" to your audience walking out saying "this was good!" – <i>Submitted by Melissa Shaw</i>
TOPIC(S):	Theater, Storytelling
LEARNING OBJECTIVE:	They will grow their propensity to take risks, think about art and theater outside of the box and create a short piece of theater.
AUDIENCE:	6 th grade and Up, 20 max
TIMING:	90
APPENDICES:	None
MATERIALS NEEDED:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Random object you find around camp to act as props! • A Bucket • Paper • Pens
SET-UP DETAILS:	Theater or large space with a half circle of chairs

SESSION TIMELINE & OUTLINE:

Being an artist is about asking questions. Being a Jew is about asking questions. So nu? Is there a connection?

(5 minutes) As participants enter they will be asked to drop a question in the bucket based on their assignment to observe the world around them.

(10 Minutes) In this game participants will be a group of people having a conversation. The catch is that they can only ask questions! If you say a statement you're out. We shall play several rounds.

A nice piece of writing about Yiddishkeit and question asking.
https://www.aish.com/j/fs/Jews_Love_Questions.html

(45 minutes) Twilight in the Avant Garden of Eden.

In this activity participants will build on the previous two sessions by reaching into their intentional creative selves to answer each other's questions through short scenes.

List of things created by God on Twilight on the 6th day will be posted and their significance will be discussed.

The mishnah (Avot 5:8) reads: Ten things were created at twilight:

1. the mouth of the earth [that swallowed Korah]
2. the mouth of the well [that provided water for the Israelites in the wilderness]
3. the mouth of the donkey [that spoke to Balaam]
4. and the rainbow
5. and the manna
6. and the staff
7. and the *shamir*
8. and the writing
9. and the inscription
10. and the tablets.

Some say, also (11) the destructive spirits, and (12) Moses' burial place, and (13) Abraham's ram. And some say, (14) tongs are made with tongs.

Everyone will be asked to write one ingredient that the short play must include:

- A moment where everything goes in reverse
- Or a moment of laughter
- Or a moment of vulnerability

Facilitator will collect the requirements and chart them on a piece of paper so that all small groups can see them and include them to assist in the process.

Additionally, all short scenes must include the use of one of items from the Pirkei Avot list in some form.

Share pieces and reflect on what we experienced.

I liked

I wish

I wonder....

Closing Circle- What did you gain from these sessions?