

### Team Building and Group Dynamics – Specialty Track 2

<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., plastic straws, disposable cups
<b>SET-UP DETAILS:</b>	Large space – no furniture

#### SESSION TIMELINE & OUTLINE:

- 10 minutes: Warm Up
- 25 minutes: Breakout 1
- 10 minutes: Haggadah Lesson
- 10 minutes: Instant scavenger hunt
- 10 minutes: Jedi mind tricks
- 25 minutes: See-Build-Run

“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?

10  
min

### 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 1 – Jewish Holiday Song Session*

Ask participants to get into groups of which is their favourite 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

25  
min

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 listen 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

10  
min

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.

*Breakout 4 – 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.

### INSTANT SCAVENGER HUNT

To further the goal of pooling together different skill sets – we'll play instant scavenger hunt!

10  
min

#### **Instant Scavenger hunt:**

Team A: in teams they have 10 minutes to collect 13 items, one for each letter in the alphabet from A-M

Team B: collect 13 items – one from N-Z

Team C: Creative: Collect these items 10 item

1. magic wand
2. flying disc
3. flower
4. an invention
5. hat
6. musical instrument
7. spider web
8. clock
9. binoculars
10. flea circus trapeze

### JEDI MIND TRICK

Stand in a circle with one person in the middle. The goal of the person in the center is to take another participant's place in the circle. Members of the outer circle attempt to switch places without losing a spot in the circle to the person in the middle. To switch places, a participant on the outside makes eye contact with another member of the circle and then both members run across the circle and switch places. No talking or additional gestures can be used.

10  
min

*Breakout 6 – Get in to any group of 4. Each person in the group must think of an animal. Get into order of that animal from smallest to largest. All smallest get together, 2<sup>nd</sup> smallest, 2<sup>nd</sup> largest, Largest. That's the new group!*

### SEE – RUN – BUILD

Each team will assign, the "see-ers, the runners, and the builders". There will be an elaborate design/structure composed of many different parts. 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.

25  
min

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