

[Theater Arts], [Specialty Track]

AUTHOR(S):	Melissa Shaw
SUMMARY:	<p><i>Submitted by-</i> Melissa Shaw</p> <p>The Theater Arts can be a spark, a gateway, or even hung and swung upon like a jungle gym. Theater is an opportunity to arrive in a place together and imagine anew what we can make, how we can play with intention, and how to have a total experience</p>
TOPIC(S):	Theater, Performance
LEARNING OBJECTIVE:	By the end of our time together, participants will have a strong foundation in theater games, techniques, and creative exercises to be used to both strengthen their community and think above, below, inside and outside the box!
AUDIENCE:	Any age (with adaptations that are age appropriate) Best for groups of 20 and below, but all exercises can be adapted to
TIMING:	90 minutes
APPENDICES:	None
MATERIALS NEEDED:	None
SET-UP DETAILS:	The idea behind this year's theater track is to help us build a vocabulary around how theater can be done, made, performed anywhere at our camps. You can try to adapt any of this Track to how it best suits your needs and your camps.

SESSION TIMELINE & OUTLINE:

- 10 Minutes - Discussion
- 10 Minutes - Name game
- 20 Minutes - Curtain up on...
- 20 Minutes - Creating Space from the formless void
- 10 Minutes - Welcome the stranger
- 20 Minutes - Putting it all together

10 minutes- Welcome and Grounding in the Track.
Question: What is Theater?

This first session is about using theater to “ignite.” In this session, we will be focusing on beginnings. On how things “start” and setting the tone in your specialties or in your gatherings in general. A thing to remember is that theater isn’t just plays and acting it’s a study in what happens when groups of people come together and when it’s done well it can be at the very least memorable and perhaps life changing.

10 minutes Name Game: Hi, You’re Louis, and That’s a Beautiful Thing.

In this fun and positive- vibe -creating name game, we will explore how to set a tone of loving acceptance in your rooms right away.

20 Minutes- Curtain Up on....

In this fast-paced activity, we will experiment with the variety of ways things can “start.” We will practice with dialogue, frozen images and entrances.

20 Minutes- Creating space out of the void...

A space can be invoked with the flick of a wrist (a waiter taking your order) a single gesture (raising your hand as if you are in class) or a simple body position (downward dog and I know I’m in yoga class) Through a series of prompts, participants will create physical spaces out of thin air without ever saying a word.

10 Minutes- Welcome! You’re no longer a Stranger- A practice in Gemilut Hasadim

In this activity we will practice all the ways to welcome people in our places and Spaces. How does an audience member feel like part of the action from the very first second they arrive? Can this apply to a new camper as well?

In Sleep No More, a large-scale production in NYC, people are given a playing card the moment this walk in that helps them find what group they should be in. How do we welcome our visitors and prep them for their journey?

20 Minutes -Putting it all together

In small groups we are going to create short pieces that use all of the skills we worked on. We will welcome our audience, create space out of thin air, and create very special beginnings that hook each other in.