

[Theater Arts] [Specialty Track 2]

AUTHOR(S):	Melissa Shaw
SUMMARY:	<p><i>Submitted by Melissa Shaw</i></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 create a total experience.</p>
TOPIC(S):	Theater, Performance
LEARNING OBJECTIVE:	By the end of our time together, participants will have a strong foundation in various theater games, playmaking techniques and creative exercises all of which they can use to strengthen their communities and to 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 a larger format
TIMING:	90
APPENDICES:	N/A
MATERIALS NEEDED:	Chart Paper, Markers.
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- When is Theater not "The theater"
- 20 minutes- StageDoor
- 45 Minutes- Into the Woods
- 15 Minutes - Discussion

Welcome Back

5 minutes- Framing -Makom- מקום makom- What does it mean to you?

What do we mean when we say “place”- Short discussion.

10 Minutes- When is Theater not the “Theater?”

Roving theater is an entire genre! Today we will practice ways to engage campers with this technique.

To start we will make a list of interesting, unique or unexplored “places” that we all have at camp. As people throw out locations we will chart them to be used later.

20 minutes- Warm up- “Stage Door” a game about more than doorways...

We will set our attention on the architecture of the room.

By creating improvised monologues and 5-line scenes in locations such as doorways, windows, kitchenette, etc.

Two people at a time will be called up and given a prompt.

Examples of prompts: You are running late, you have come to surprise your friend; you are trying to get someone to come with you somewhere, etc.

Note: please feel free to come up with your own. They should be prompts that have a “need” of some sort.

Volunteers will be asked to improvise scenes in locations based on the scenarios.

Reflection: How might we interact with the architecture of our camp to get more out of our activities - theater or otherwise. How can spaces at camp become enliven through this work?

45 minutes- Into the Woods-Next up, outdoors...

Through a series of movement and improv exercises we will experiment with various outdoor spots and venues. The facilitator will suggest prompts and exercises to help us flex our creativity at various locations for example: staircase, gazebo, the woods, etc.

To begin, we will work with a theater technique called the Viewpoints. The Viewpoints break theater down into core elements such as shape, time, emotion, etc. We will begin to explore these components to deepen our theatrical vocabulary.

After the basic elements are introduced we will begin playing with what time looks, moves, and sounds like in our bodies. We will do the same for space, and shape, and the rest of the Viewpoints.

The goal here is to explore, experiment, and be playful as we express theatrical language and the building blocks of non-traditional staging.

10 minutes- Discussion

How might what we experienced today be helpful at your camps?

Any new reflections on makom and using theater as a tool?