

There's A Crack in Everything, That's How the Light Gets In
Elective 2

AUTHOR(S):	Asya Gribov
SUMMARY:	In this mosaic art workshop, participants will transform the act of destruction into creation as we think about the birth of the world, the seemingly broken state of the world today, and our role in repairing it.
ABC GOALS:	<p>Affective: Participants will feel....</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • hopeful • creative • inspired <p>Behavior: Participants will be able to...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • create collaborative mosaic art work • reflect on the idea of destruction as an integral part of creation • infuse concepts of Tikkun Olam into their art making <p>Cognitive: Participants will know...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • how to create mosaics • the concepts of Tikkun Olam and Tzimtzum • how to lead an art workshop inspired by Jewish text
AUDIENCE:	Staff, campers of all ages, small to medium size group
TIMING:	90 minutes
APPENDICES:	Anthem Lyrics Shevirah Tikkun Olam
MATERIALS NEEDED:	<p>For Glass Mosaics (teens and larger budget) Paper, markers, hammers, glass plates or glass sheets, cut resistant gloves, old towels or thick cloth, bins for glass pieces, grout, wooden boards, Weldbond glue, large sponges, garbage disposal for glass, band aids (just in case)</p> <p>Alternative For Torn Paper Collage (younger participants, cost efficient) Recycled paper of different colors and textures, Elmer's glue, large thick paper or poster board</p>

SET-UP DETAILS:

- Art room or outdoor work space where a mess can be made
- Location where noise is ok
- The mosaic design should be outlined onto wooden pieces before workshop
- Additional work will need to be done at least 24 hours after the workshop

This program requires use of hammers and breaking and working with broken glass. All safety precautions should be taken to ensure a safe environment. Simultaneously, trust participants to be careful and responsible.

SESSION TIMELINE

- 0 - 10 MIN - Ice Breaker/Introduction
- 10-35 MIN - Discussion /Text
- 35-45 MIN - Glass Breaking
- 45-65 MIN - Mosaic Making
- 65-90 MIN - Group Discussion and Debrief

SESSION OUTLINE:

As participants enter, play Anthem by Leonard Cohen

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=c8-BT6y_wYg

Ice Breaker/ Introduction (10-15 min.)

Participants introduce themselves and share either a story of any bones they have broken or valuable object they have broken

Text & Discussion (15-20 min.)

Word association:

- What comes to mind when you hear the word broken?

On a small piece of paper, participants answer in writing

- What do you want to break?
 - o Participants share 1-word answers with group
- Reflecting back on the thing they chose to break, or perhaps another idea they now chose, participants reflect in pairs on the following questions:
 - o How do you want to break it?
 - o Does it need breaking?
 - o Do all parts of it need to be broken? Are there any parts that shouldn't be?
 - o What does the breaking of it, leave open? What void is created by the breaking of that 'thing'?

Full group discussion

- Would you agree with this statement?

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“It can be said that it is brokenness that has enabled Jews to continue as a people. It is the struggles, the destruction, the rebuilding, that has united us, and formulated our culture.”

- Can you think of moments of hardship for Jews?
We celebrate victory over terrible times. We don't celebrate “and everything was fine and dandy.”
- What are instances in Jewish traditions when we reference breaking or brokenness? (Jewish wedding, Matzah, creation of the world, Moses breaking tablets, destruction of Beit Hamigdash...)

Text Sheet – Appendix 1 – In the Beginning

Even our creation story starts with a break.

Nothing begins with a sense of completion. Even in the beginnings of beginnings, in the Jewish tradition, there was a break (a big bang?) that started creation. According to Kabbalah, even the world was created out of brokenness.

Glass Breaking (10 min)

So let's break something... and create something together.

Get it out! Envision that thing you wanted to break at the start of the session.

Having gone over the rules and safety precautions, participants can take turns breaking the glass and sorting glass pieces by color.

* Prior to Starting: Go over safety precautions as appropriate

- In order to break glass, glass must be wrapped in towel or thick cloth.
- Participants should put on thick gloves (gardening gloves) to move the glass
- Only 1 person at a time should be using hammer, do not swing hammer over head
- Throw out extra glass shards immediately into designated container

Mosaic Making (20-30 min)

Working in groups, participants will use the glass pieces to create a collaborative mosaic.

Tips:

- Arrange pieces before you glue them!
- Glue the glass, not your fingers
- Leave a little bit of space between pieces, pieces should not be touching
- Follow the lines to differentiate letters/ figures
- If possible, participants can arrange the glass pieces on a separate large sheet of paper, and once the design is laid out to preference, begin to glue glass pieces to wooden board.

Don't forget to clean up.

Group Discussion and Debrief (15-20 min)

Appendix 2 – Tikkun Olam

Group Discussion:

- How did it feel to break something?
- How did it feel to work with others on an artwork?
- Thinking about the world today, it feels like we are in such a broken time, thing after thing, how can we take this fragmentation and turn it into something positive, something new, creative?

POST WORKSHOP

It will take at least 24 hours for mosaic pieces to adhere to the board. After the mosaic pieces are glued, grout will need to be applied to complete the mosaic.

BRINGING IT TO YOUR CAMP:

Of course, a workshop that involves breaking and working with glass should be approached with caution. Facilitator should use best judgement to make sure participants have the right energy for the workshop.

Adapting to different audiences:

Alternative materials for young campers:

- Use paper to create torn paper collages
- Use recycled materials or scraps to build something new
- Use old clothes, tapestry, fabric to create a cloth mosaic or quilt

Discussion Points for staff:

- What's the metaphor here for camp?
- Where are the cracks in camp? What's the opportunity that those create?
- What are the benefits and challenges of risky or dangerous workshops in camp?
What is the necessary prep?

RESOURCES AND EXPANSION IDEAS:

Anthem by Leonard Cohen

How To: Collaborative Mosaic Making:

<https://theartofeducation.edu/2012/12/27/how-to-create-a-collaborative-mosaic/>

How to Grout Mosaics:

<https://www.midwestliving.com/garden/ideas/how-to-make-mosaic-garden-projects/>



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Japanese Art of Kintsukuroi

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kintsugi>

Shevirah - Shattering the Vessels

<https://www.sefaria.org/sheets/32246?lang=bi>