



## Nature Crowns



### Overview:

Shabbat is a celebration of the end of the week. It is a Jewish tradition to make Shabbat feel different in many ways, including setting a special table, making special foods, and wearing special clothing. In this activity, children make crowns out of items found in nature to wear on Shabbat.

This activity also highlights the “regal” qualities of Shabbat, as Shabbat is often referred to as a Queen.

### Supplies:

- Card stock, poster board or large construction paper (you’ll need two pieces for each crown – children’s heads are often 20” or larger)
- Wide double sided tape for decoration, and a stapler or masking tape to form the crowns
- Small basket or bin for collecting natural items (consider also providing some pre-collected items)
- Prepare the crowns in advance according to [these directions](#)

### Instructions

- Who can think of a day that is really special? (Birthdays, holidays, etc.) What are some things you and your family do to make the day feel special?

- Shabbat is a special day for Jewish families all over the world, and many families do things to make it special... (discuss and/or read a Shabbat picture book such as *The Friday Nights of Nana*, *Mrs. Moskowitz and the Shabbat Candlesticks*, *The Shmutzy Family*, *Saturdays are Special*, or *The Shabbat Princess*)
- We're going to make special crowns to wear on Shabbat and decorate them with some of the beautiful things we can find in nature.
- Distribute collecting baskets and give directions, being mindful about safety. (Where can they go to collect? What should they not pick up?)
- When children/ families return, distribute crowns for decorating.

### **Extension/Follow Up**

- Use the same materials to create nature bracelets or nature collages.
- Hold a parade through camp or the dining hall with all your Shabbat kings and queens

### **Additional Jewish content**

- Share [this song](#) about getting ready for Shabbat in a follow up email to families for kids.
- Consider a parade with everyone modeling their Shabbat crowns!