



EXPERIENTIAL EDUCATION CARNIVAL

THANK YOU TO SARAH MOODY FOR THE INSPIRATION!

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OBJECTIVES

- Participants will be able to name multiple modalities of experiential Jewish education.
- Participants will be able to share a new song with their camp communities.
- Participants will be able to explain at least one data-informed point about field-wide Jewish experiences at camp.

GOALS

- Introduce participants to the concepts of
 - experiential Jewish education at camp, specifically as it relates to Shabbat
 - music is one way that we do experiential education
 - music can be connected to other camp activities to deepen the educational value
- Participants will bond and have fun!
- Participants will feel that their camps' traditions are connected to others'.

SET-UP

- Ideally, this program takes place indoors.
- Tables are set up in a circle, with materials set up on the tables to create eight carnival stations:
 - Challah Braiding, Candle Lighting, Shabbat Song, Israeli Dance, Shabbat-O-Grams, Shabbat Stroll, Shabbat Game Show, Shabbat Sunset
- Participants begin by sitting in the middle of the circle of tables, either on the floor or in chairs.

MATERIALS

- Tables
- Eight station instruction sheets
- Experiential Education Worksheet
- Data handout
- Challah Braiding station:
 - A loaf of challah
 - Play-doh
- Candle Lighting station:
 - Shabbat candles
 - Matches, lighter, or printed match picture
- Shabbat Song station
 - Speaker
 - Assorted musical instruments
- Israeli Dance station:
 - Laptop that plays video
- Shabbat-O-Grams station:
 - Assorted paper
 - Assorted writing utensils
- Shabbat Stroll station:
 - Tape
 - Printed pictures of camp
- Shabbat Game Show station:
 - Timer (can be on a phone)
 - M&ms
 - Plastic straws
 - Bowls
- Shabbat Sunset station:
 - Sand art bottles
 - Craft sand
 - Empty hourglass timer
 - Sunset photos

SESSION TIMELINE

- 00:00-00:10 - Music @ Camp Discussion
- 00:10-00:15 - Teach Hinei Mah Tov
- 00:15-00:30 - Experiential Education Carnival
- 00:30-00:45 - Handout + Group Discussion
- 00:45-00:50 - Closing Hinei Mah Tov

SESSION OUTLINE

00:00-00:10 - Music @ Camp Discussion

- Hand out data source sheet and instruct participants to review it silently.
- After three minutes of reading, pose the following questions for participants to discuss with a person or two next to them:
 - What does this mean?
 - What stands out?
 - How does this relate to the way Judaism happens at *YOUR* camp?

After five minutes, ask two groups to briefly share one thing that came up in their conversation.

- Explain that key takeaways from this data are that
 - Jews and non-Jews at camp all report positively on Jewish experiences at camp, specifically Shabbat.
 - The camps with the most positive ratings on Jewish experiences are those where Jewish content is integrated into all of camp life, rather than being a separate activity.
 - We are all part of this collective mission of Jewish camp, and the work all of our camps do *together* is so impactful. You are changing the lives of your own campers, and contributing to the collective future for all of these thousands of humans.

00:10-00:15 - Teach Hinei Mah Tov

- Introduce the song “Hinei Mah Tov.” Let’s start getting into music together!
- Songleader (facilitator or pre-selected songleader from the group) teaches the song.

00:15-00:30 Experiential Education Carnival

- Introduce the Experiential Education Carnival. This Carnival showcases a bunch of different ways - different senses, different modalities - that you might explore Shabbat and the lead-up to Shabbat at your camp.
- Ask: who’s thought of camp as being a place for education before? Define experiential Jewish education as education where we engage through immersion, through doing, through our senses. It’s about gaining something (feeling or knowing or doing) from both the how and from the what. More space for people to learn or take away different things from the same activity.
- Participants will have fifteen minutes to explore! They can read the sign at each station, and follow the instructions. This is a time to really play with whichever stations are interesting to them! They can spend as much or as little time at a given station as they want.

00:30-00:45 Handout + Group Discussion

- Ask participants to stand at a station that was interesting to them – their favorite, one they’re curious about, one they’d never seen before, one they already do at their camp...Encourage them to stand at a station with at least one other person.
- In these groups, invite them to continue interacting with the station and discuss the questions on the Experiential Education Handout. They should stop after discussing/writing Question 3.
- Once everyone has finished Question 3, ask the group to share back:
 - What’s on your minds as you fill this out?
 - What was the carnival experience like? What was it like experiencing Shabbat education through eight different immersive modalities?
 - Anything you want to share from your discussion/filling out the worksheet?
- Tell participants that soon they’re now going to move onto the rest of the worksheet questions. Say: We just looked at so many different modalities, one of which was music, which is a particularly unique one because it can be attached to other modalities and to so many activities. Complete the next couple of questions as best as you can, and then we’ll talk about it.
- After groups complete the rest of the worksheet, ask them to share back.
 - What are your answers? Did this inspire anything?
 - Provide the following additional examples: What if you led a song while walking your campers to challah baking? What if you taught your campers the words to the Israeli Dance music? What if instead of a traditional timer at the game show, campers placed as many m&ms in the bowl as they can while singing the chorus of *Hinei Mah Tov*?
 - Closing thoughts? Anyone want to wrap up what they’ve learned/what they’re percolating on?

00:45-00:50 Closing Hinei Mah Tov

- Intro that we will close by singing Hinei Mah Tov again together.
- Ask if there are any additional songleaders in the crowd who would like to get up in front and co-lead the song (by singing, playing an instrument from the Shabbat Song station, or dancing).
- Songleaders lead the group in singing Hinei Mah Tov.