

## Peulat Shabbat 7/28 - Jewish Historical Figures

Chanichim learned about different historical figures (Shlomo Karlbach, Chana Senesh, etc.), and did an activity associated with the specific character (make your own niggun for Shlomo Karlbach). At the end they were given a part of a pasuk from D'varim which described how the land of Israel was given to the Jewish people through their ancestors.

### Goal:

- Briefly teach Chanichim about important Jewish historical figures, in line with theme of history and retelling of stories. Also have chanichim complete a task associated specifically with the appropriate historical figure.

### Procedure:

- Everyone meets in Moadon at 4:45
- Brief overview of peulah and split into 5 groups (5 min)
  - o There are historical Jewish figures scattered across the Migrash
  - o They each have a task for you
  - o If you complete the task sufficiently, they will give you a piece of a verse from D'varim
  - o Once you have all the pieces, present it to the mystery person in the Grove for a prize!
- Chanichim will then rotate around stations, EACH STATION SHOULD TAKE ~7 MINUTES; THERE WILL BE A FLOATER TELLING PEOPLE TO SWITCH
- Rotation:
  - Everyone should meet up back in Grove by 5:40, "Joshua" will be waiting in the Grove to "bring the Chanichim into the land of Israel" (Mincha) and give them "milk and honey" (let's make it chocolate)
- MINCHA ON TIME!

Character blurbs (try to have memorized as much as possible, no reading from sheet):

### Materials:

Parachute

Hershey Kisses (request for Hershey bars from the kitchen)

Rabbi Akiva (Dena) - In front of Little House

If you don't know me that's OK, I would love to introduce myself. My name is Rabbi Akiva and I am a Torah scholar from the Babylonian Talmudic period. Up until I was 40 years old I didn't know a word of Torah but my wife encouraged me to explore my roots and my religion. With hard work, I became one of the finest Torah scholars of all time after being an unlearned man. When the Roman occupation of Israel became too much for me to handle, I helped organize a rebellion called the

Bar Kochva Rebellion. The Romans did end up catching me but before they executed me I recited the shema for everyone in the area to hear. Now it is a tradition to recite the shema before death, proclaiming the Jewish people's firmest belief that Adonai is our one and only God.

TASK: Being our most sacred prayer, why do you think we sit during the shema in our services? [answer: Their own answers are also all going to be right. This should

be a mini discussion. The traditional answer is that since the shema is comprised of Biblical passages, Jews study Torah sitting down, and every time we recite the shema it is a study session.]

Chana Senesh (Jill) – In front of Moadon

My name is Chana Senesh and I was born in 1921 in Budapest Hungary. By myself I took my Judaism and made aliyah at the age of 18, before the State of Israel was established. I joined a kibbutz but volunteered to join the British Army in 1943, at the age of 22. What was going on in 1943? (right, the Holocaust...) in order to save Jews in Eastern Europe. I parachuted into Hungary, my birth country which was occupied by the Nazis, risking my life in order to save fellow Jews. At the Hungarian border I was caught by the Nazis. They tortured me trying to make me reveal information about my operation, but I refused for over a year, withstanding horrible physical and emotion pain. During my time in prison, I found a way to communicate with other prisoners through mirrors, providing them with moral support. I wrote encouraging and beautiful poetry and songs. When the Nazis executed me, I sang the shema, and if you've already met Rabbi Akiva, then you know why. I never wavered in my devotion to the Jewish people and forming the state of Israel.

TASK: everyone sits under the Amitzim parachute to mimics Chanah's parachuting into Nazi territory. While under the parachute, they have to encourage each other using only their facial expressions.

Shlomo Carlebach (Solomon) – Shade area near tennis courts

Nai nai nai nai nai...Shalom! I am Shlomo Carlbach, and many consider me the "Singing Rabbi". I began writing songs at the end of the 1950s, primarily based on verses from the Tanakh or the Siddur set to my own music. But guess what? I can't even read musical notes! Don't let anything get in the way of your dreams! My songs were characterized by relatively short melodies and traditional lyrics and my catchy new tunes were easy to learn and became part of the prayer services in many synagogues around the world, and we even use them here in Camp Ramah every Kabbalat Shabbat!

TASK: Compose you own niggun, using only the word "Nai"!

Ben Gurion (Shlomi) – In front of Bunk 52

Shalom L'kulam! I am David Ben Gurion, the First Prime Minister of the State of Israel from 1948 to 1963 Unlike many others in my time, I believed that the sparsely populated and barren Negev desert offered a great opportunity for the Jews to settle in Palestine, and I set a personal example by settling in kibbutz Sde Boker at the centre of the Negev, and I encouraged others to do the same. I was obsessed with

making the desert bloom!

TASK: Make an interpretive dance about pioneers coming to the Negev and the struggle to make it bloom

Yael (Ariella) - In front of bunk 49

I'm the most badtush woman in the bible. When King Sissera mounted his attack against the Jews and Barak's army I took matters in to my own hands - literally. I coaxed Sissera to come to my tent, had him fall asleep, and then took a tent peg and drove it through his temple. Barak and his army were able to defeat Sissera's and pretty much I saved the day.

TASK: Each person names an instance of someone being an upstander, either from their personal life or a story they have heard before

Joshua (Joshua) – In front of Grove

Bruchim HaBa'im! I am here to lead you in to the Holy Land, for I am Joshua, Moses' successor. Now that you have a good grasp on some important Jewish historical figures, you can now enter in the Land of Israel! But before I can let you in I want you all to say the verse you've been given in Hebrew then English! And now, here's a sweet treat for each of you for entering the land of milk and honey.