**Peulat Edah Day 1: Ring Ceremony**

3:45-4:45pm

**Goal:**

* Work towards a common goal
* Build edah unity
* Build excitement!
* Give them something that distinguishes them from other edot

**Materials:**

* 97 “class rings”
* Ladder
* Microphone (tech request)
* Speakers (Eli brings or tech request)

**Location:** BAG (stage facing outside with barn doors open)

**Overview:**

1. Meet outside of binyanim at 3:45pm. \***Tell kids to wear sneakers.\***
2. Get all kids to stand in a straight line across Machane Gimmel (shoulder to shoulder). Tell them to untie their shoes.
3. Staff will walk around and tie each person’s shoes to the person’s next to them so that the entire line of people is tied together. Try to do this as efficiently as possible while ensuring that all shoes are properly tied together. DOUBLE KNOT.
4. Jillian/John will explain that their first challenge as an edah is to move as a cohesive unit towards a common goal: walking to the BAG while remaining completely tied together. We will explain that if any shoes become untied while we’re walking to the BAG, the whole line will pause and they will tie their own shoes back together.
5. Once at the BAG, they can untie their shoes.
6. The Ring Ceremony will commence.
7. Speech on stage with microphone. Given by Jillian and John.
8. Each chanich/a will come up to the stage, climb onto the ladder, and receive their “edah ring.” All madrichim will be standing on stage. Each chanich/a will shake each madrich/a and Aryeh’s hand.
9. They will all return to their seats once they receive their rings and Aryeh will talk (last 15 mins).

**Role of madrichim:**

* Tie everyone’s shoes together once they’re in a line. Each madrich/a takes ~10 chanichim.
* While kids are walking in a line to the BAG, everyone should be spaced out and making sure everyone is staying tied together. Make them pause if anyone gets untied.
* Once we arrive at the BAG, all staff should be *bein* while the speech is being given. We need to make sure they stay pretty quiet and are taking it seriously. But we will hopefully have a microphone TG.
* After opening speech, all staff come up to the stage (to shake hands with ring recipients).
* All staff will return to ground with chanichim and sit *bein.*

**Rain Plan: Beit Am Bet**

1. Bring everyone to Beit Am Bet. **If they’re wearing rain boots, tell them to bring sneakers with them!**
2. Get everyone into a line hot dog style (and give shoe-tying instructions -- see next page).
3. Tie everyone’s shoes together.
4. Everyone will walk from one end of the BAB to the other while remaining tied together. Then walk back. If their shoes get untied, everyone must pause and wait until they’re tied back together. (Soft music playing in background).
5. Then: spontaneous Cha Cha Slide.
6. Ring Ceremony commences.
7. Aryeh talks.
8. Gelb talks.

**Instructions for shoe-tying:**

*Bruchim habaim* le Nivonim 2017!

Please stand in a single line facing the Beit Am Gadol. You should be shoulder to shoulder with the person next to you.

\*\*Wait until they’re all in a line\*\*

Please untie your shoes and stand still. A madrich/madricha will come around and tie your shoes to the person next to you.

\*\*Wait until all shoes are tied together\*\*

Your task is to walk as a cohesive unit to the outside of the Beit Am Gadol while remaining completely tied together. If your shoes untie from the person next to you, we will have everyone pause and you will tie them back together before we can continue to walk. Once we arrive at the Beit Am Gadol, please wait and remain in the line until you receive further instructions.

Go.

**Speech:**

Friends and family, esteemed colleagues, international visitors, Board of Directors, and edat ha Nivonim: *todah rabah* for joining us here today on this momentous occasion. Today is unlike any other day. Today, for the first time in your life, you are officially a member of the elite institution of Nivonim. Welcome.

Why do we come to Machane Ramah? I’m sure you all have your own reasons, individually. But why, as a group, did we gather here today? Why not wander aimlessly around Palmer for two months? Explore Palmer’s vistas and canyons. See the views from its scenic skyscrapers. Visit its international aquarium and see its dolphins.

Unlike oceanic dolphins, the Amazon River Dolphin can turn its head 90 degrees. These river dolphins are born with a dark grey color, but over their lifetime they develop a trademark pink hue, which is why they are often called Pink River Dolphins. Edat ha Nivonim, you are not like oceanic dolphins. You have the ability to turn your heads, to change your perspective. Now, please turn your heads, look at the people to your right and left. These are your comrades, your chaverim, your dolphin pod. Together you will grow as an edah, and learn to navigate the mighty amazon river that is this kayitz. The amazon river can be murky, so amazon river dolphins often depend on echolocation to traverse upstream. You too will develop a sixth sense of ahava with your edah, and will be able to accomplish any task whether you are practicing for our Machazemer, planning for Yom Sport, or swimming 22 kilometers per hour in formation to hunt a school of piranha.

Today, we will present you with a hand-engraved, gold encrusted, custom designed edah ring. This ring will distinguish you from every other person in our *machane*. Wear it with pride. One by one, we will call you up to receive your ring. -------