

Sensitivity peulah

Theme: Everyone made in the image of god tzelem elohim, then strength and courage to stand up for those of us who are seen as different

Obstacle course with disabilities

If one person cannot make it on your team, your whole team cannot move

Obstacle course

Disability #1: You move slowly and get distracted. You become more withdrawn as people yell at you. You only move when you are looked at in the eye and asked what is wrong. You like being cheered on by the whole group and made to feel included. At foot ball pad activity you are scared and will not go through unless someone holds your hand.

Disability #2: You can't use your left leg well, but don't make this known until the second activity. The ball game is impossible unless some one helps you do it with them. You get upset when people yell at you and sit out, but love to play when you're included. At second activity keep dropping the ball until someone helps you.

Disability #3: You can't remember names or words to songs or cheers very well, and you'll say a different word that you like each time in its place because you forget the word during the count off activity. You can only remember the right thing to say when some one reminds you.

Scavenger hunt activities:

Step 1: over under benches

Step 2: make a line body-width apart, then pass a ball using your legs; each time you drop the ball it goes back to the beginning of the line

Step 3: scooter through cones

Step 4: run through football pads

Step 5: Sit in circle, make a countoff, and then do your count-off perfectly.

Once activity is finished, Discussion led by...

Shana Scott

Jaxson

Rosen

Karen

Shana

What was your initial reaction to this activity? How did you feel about your friends having disabilities?

When did you go from feeling frustrated to feeling like your friend needed help?

Were you just tolerating the disability or were you genuinely trying to help?

What worked during this activity?

How did you get your group to move?

As we begin the summer with many activities together, how do you think we can use this activity to help us understand and treat people who are different than us?

For those of you who had the disability, what was it like?

Was it frustrating to not be understood?

What did you learn from this experience that would help us understand how to treat people who have different needs and abilities than us?

(If there is still time, discuss the mentor versus friend role that these kids will mostly struggle with. Try to emphasize that we are encouraging more "friend Type" relationships, but that they should not be afraid to correct socially inappropriate behavior. The best way for them to learn is from a friend)

Mention that there are times that they can hangout with us at other times besides machon helpers, and if they are interested, they should talk to their rosh and we can set something up like a peulat tzrif or a chug or a sports buddy.

Bring whole group together for skit by Jaxson and Shana

Situation 1: amitzim camper hugs without asking, typical camper hugs back.

What should he have done?

A handshake, etc

Situation 2: amitzim camper speaks to you only in animal noises, typical camper feels awkward and responds with animal noise

What should he have done?

Encourage him to use an adult voice and remind him that you don't speak pig

Situation 3: amitzim camper is talking to you and you can't understand them so you just nod and pretend that you did

What should he have done?

Tough one, maybe bring over a counselor to help, or calmly ask to repeat until you understand, but theres no right answer. Just be kind and patient.

Discuss the idea that this is rooted in Jewish text:

"And God created people in God's Image."

Genesis 1:27

ד לא-תקלל חרש--ולפני עור, לא תתן מכשל

"You shall not insult the deaf, or place a stumbling block before the blind."

Leviticus: 19:14

א [ח] כל איש מישראל, תיב בתלמוד תורה: בין עני בין עשיר, בין שלם בגופו בין בעל יסורין.

"Every member of the people of Israel is obligated to study Torah – whether one is rich or poor, physically able or with physical disability."

Maimonides, Mishne Torah, Hilchot Talmud Torah, Chapter 1