

T'fillah Programs

Ipod Tefillot or "What goes on in Ari's head during tefillot"

We picked out songs by different groups like Six13, Pizmon, Chevra, and Miami Boys Choir that went with different prayers. For example, we played Six13's version of Ma Tovvu as we said the prayer, and Chevra's lecha when we got to the paragraphs before Az Yashir. This slight change in tefillot made everyone more energetic.

Options Tefillot: We created four different Tefillot options for them to choose from. We leveled them a few days before and then had them go. One option was a "shleyma" minyan that did an entire full tefillah including repetition of the Amida. Another option was a learner's minyan with Hillel Green. Last were a yoga minyan with Jen Stern, and a meditation minyan with Abby Kerbel.

We succeeded in getting new kids to lead and we did a full matbeah as much as possible. It was important to get leaders the night before, and when reading Torah it was very helpful to have the names kids getting an aliyah written down. On Shabbat we would make a full sheet with every Torah reader, Aliyah, and Tefillot leader written down.

One week we made a Shabbat Bulletin, which included the list of Torah readers, kids getting aliyot, and tefillot leaders. It also had some jokes about the edah, and a dvar torah and a Jewish humor joke at the end.

Jeremy Ruberg came for Tefillah aerobics

Hillel Green ran a day of Tefillot where girls were encouraged to try wearing Tefillin and he talked about the meaning and importance behind Tefillin.