



Chapter 2.2.3

“Sample Programs”

This section gives a program writer and program participant’s ideas about programs that they can use and get ideas from. Zionism is extremely important in NFTY and in the Jewish World as a whole. This years study theme (2006-2007) is Zionism, as Jews, we need to know our history and why we need a Jewish home state. These programs not only help educate oneself as a program leader, but they most importantly educate the program participants, who will hopefully share their newly gained knowledge to the rest of the community about a need to preserve Eretz Yisrael. Without NFTY and other such Youth Organization throughout the world, the knowledge of Zionism wouldn’t be nearly as much as it is today.

Program #1:

Program Title: The Journey of Zionism

Category: Study Theme 2006-2007

Author(s): The Regional Board Leadership Track, URJ Kutz Camp, 5766

Created for: Yom Yisrael, URJ Kutz Camp, July 6, 2006

Touchstone Text

I assign the land you sojourn in to you and your offspring to come, all the land of Canaan, as an everlasting possession. – God’s promise to Abraham, Genesis 17:8

Goals

PP’s will be educated on what it means to be an educated Zionist

PP’s will be educated on the historical roots of Zionism and how it relates to them

PP’s will be able to form their own views and opinions about Zionism

Objectives

- Through learning about the roots of Zionism PP’s will understand why Zionism became such an influential part of Judaism



- By discussing the different aspects of Zionism, PP's will be able to form their personal views on Zionism
- By experiencing different parts of Israel PP's will learn about the importance of having a Jewish homeland

Materials

Hall of History

Butcher paper

Printer paper

Markers

Flashlights

Paint

Candles

White sheets

Costumes for Abraham and Herzl and temple memoir guy

Quotes on Zionism for the hall

Exodus/Haganah

1 Projection Screen

1 Projector

1 Laptop

1 Flashlight for each guard (for British guard effect / escape from boat)

2 songs (PowerPoint background music:

“Calico” by State Radio & “Come Back” by Moshaw Band)

1 Microphone / power cords

1 PP presentation

Independence Hall



Flashlights (“searchlights” for RAs)

2 Israeli Flags

Blue Butcher Paper

2 tables

8 chairs

Podium

Poster size picture of Theodore Hertzl

Abridged copy of Israel’s declaration of independence

IPod w/ “Hatikvah”

Tour of Israel

6 Buckets for water

3 large sponges

Paper

Pens

Tel Aviv Wrap-up

White Butcher Paper (1 Roll)

Blue/Black/Colorful? Spray Paint

iPod with modern Israeli music

Sound system in Beit Am

People

Haganah

5 Haganah members

Someone to man PowerPoint system



Someone to man sound system

4 RA's (for British guards)

Independence Hall

Group leaders to lead PP's to the Beit from Tron

RA's to shine flashlights and yell in transit

2 authoritative figures - David ben Gurion and Golda Meir

Various other people on stage to fill chairs

Tour of Israel

GLs-to walk around with the groups

PP's

Time Table

00:00-00:05	Introduction
00:05-00:35	Hall of History
00:35-00:55	Exodus & Haganah
00:55-01:10	Independence Hall
01:10-01:40	Tour of Israel
01:40-02:00	Welcome to Tel Aviv & Wrap-up

DETAILED PROCEDURE

00:00-00:05 Introduction

Brief introduction will be shared to set the tone of the evening, and share essential questions about identifying one's own Zionism. PP's will be sent in to art building at a constant flow. On the outside of the art building there will be quotes and pictures of Zionism. Ben will write this section



“The roots of Zionism go back very far, beginning with the Torah. Over the years Zionism has evolved into many things. Up until the latter part of the 20th century Reform Judaism was not a Zionist movement and did not consider the formation of a Jewish State in Israel. The journey towards creating a Zionist movement has been very long. As you move through the program I urge all of you to keep an open mind about your own personal views on Zionism and the creation of a Jewish State.”

00:05-00:35 Hall of History

00:05-00:10 – Abraham room – There is a man dressed up as if he is Abraham who welcomes the PPs into the room. The room is decorated in the essence of Mesopotamia. Then a “voice” (God) reads the portion Lech Lecha to Abraham to explain the covenant between Abraham and God.

00:10-00:11 – walking to next room – PPs walk to the next room, while reading quotes concerning Zionism which are on the walls. The quotes/views/platforms will have a variety of pro and con Zionism views, so to offer PPs both sides of the issue.

00:11-00:16 – Exile room – There is a mural/banner or just pictures depicting the temple pre-destruction and then the temple in ruins. The song “The Rivers of Babylon” is playing quietly. Further on in the room someone reads a memoir of the destruction of the temple.

00:16- 00:17 – walking

00:17-00:22 – Persecution stairwell – On the walls are different posters with information on the Inquisition/crusades/ Pogroms. PPs walk through the room and read the information and look at the pictures silently.

00:22-00:23 – walking – There are still similar quotes on Zionism but there is also information explaining the Dreyfuss affair.

00:23-00:28 – Herzl room – There is a man dressed as Herzl pretending to be speaking the first World Zionist Congress which are also the PPs. He will ask them questions and preach his beliefs to educate the PPs on his view.



00:28-00:29 – walking - PPs read different quotes on different views of Zionism.

00:29-00:34 – Holocaust room – There is someone sitting in the corner of the room quietly reading names of people who have died in the Holocaust to set the mood. Otherwise the room is silent as PPs walk around the room and read poems, historical information, and personal accounts to educate them on the Holocaust. There will also be pictures of children’s drawings that were in the camps and pictures of the camps, etc. but no pictures of the people in the camps so as not to provoke unnecessary emotional response since the point of the program is Zionism not the Holocaust.

00:34 – 00:35 – walking to Tron – The walkway will be lined with candles to preserve the mood. As PP’s leave the hall of history PP’s will be broken up into groups of 15 and assigned group leaders.

00:35-00:55 Exodus & Haganah

00:35-00:40

Groups are directed into the Tron on both sides. GL’s tell groups to enter silently on left side, while other GL’s tell groups to enter silently on right side. Chairs will be set up in a “V” like a boat.

00:40-00:48

1. Haganah member gives intro (Appendix A)
2. Power Point is shown. Head GL gives voice over of information being read on screen.

00:48-00:55

1. Haganah member gives outro (Appendix B)

PP’s exit by group out of either side of the Tron. GL’s will then lead PPs to one of three entrances at the Beit Am. British Guards (staff) will shine flashlights and speak certain lines. (See Appendix C)

00:55-01:05 Independence Hall

00:55-01:05– “Welcome to Israel”, reading of Declaration of Independence, participants form their own principles on which they believe the State of Israel should be founded



Beit Am-

-PP's will walk into the Beit Am; the Beit Am will be set up in a town hall style with everyone sitting in chairs. GL stands at podium and says, "Welcome to Eretz Yisrael, the land of Milk and Honey. My name is David ben Gurion, the first PM of Israel. We are extremely pleased to announce a homeland for the Jewish people. GL will then ask PP's what they believe should be the tenants of the Jewish State of Israel. (GL will take 5-10 questions from the group) If you will indulge me, I would like to share with you many of the ideals upon which this nation is founded. [EXCERPT FROM ISRAELI DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE]." (See Appendix)

-Female GL says, "Welcome, my name is Golda Meir, the first female Prime Minister of Israel. We are very glad you could make it here safely, as a great number of Jews were not so lucky. To celebrate your aliyah, please join me in Hatikvah"

-PPs sing Hatikvah

-Segue into "Tour of Israel"

01:05-01:35 Tour of Israel

1. Start the tour

At the end of the speech, PPs will split back up into their groups. Group Locations:

- Group 1-Golan (Tower)
- Group 2-Jerusalem (Hill)
- Group 3-Negev (Tennis Courts)

2. Program rotations-(01:05-01:32)

Each rotation will be 7 minutes long with 3 minutes in between to rotate.

Golan (Kibbutzim):

At the tower, PPs will learn about kibbutz environment. GL will explain as an introduction that Kibbutzim were formed from the want to create a socialist Zionist state. Kibbutzim were formed by a collection of immigrants that came to Israel with differing opinions, and in order survive as a society, Kibbutzniks had to work together.. They will experience this by taking part in a "team building exercise." GLs will split the group into three separate groups and play the human knot game as well as playing the reverse knot game.



GL will say

- “Kibbutzim are based on team work. This is just a demonstration of how we can work together to achieve great things just like our friends living on different kibbutz do every day.”

Jerusalem:

On the hill area, PPs will learn little known facts about the Kotel. In addition they will write personal prayers that they would stick into the wall but instead will hold on to them. Discussions about what PPs wrote are okay.

- i. GL will hand out pieces of paper and PPs will be given a chance to write down a prayer they would like to place on the wall. If they can't think of anything tell PP's to write prayers about the preservation of the state of Israel
- ii. PPs will hold onto their prayer because it is a personal prayer in the hopes that they can put their prayer into the wall
- iii. PPs can have discussion about the place, questions can be found below

Discussion Questions:

1. Although the temple has been destroyed is the wall still important?
2. Do you believe that the Western Wall is an important part of Zionism? How?
3. Zionism is about a connection to a Jewish homeland, how does the wall reflect this connection.
4. Is the old city essential to a Jewish State?
5. Is the Western wall worth fighting over?
6. Is the fight for the western wall reflective of progressive Zionism?

Reframe this as Jewish understanding of preserving this one holy site

What has the historical obligation has been of Jews to the Kotel specifically

Identify prayers for the preservation of the Kotel as part of a Zionist State

Negev



In the Negev, which will be set up on the tennis courts, PPs will take part in a simulation on the Negev drought and experience the difficulty of the lack of water resources in Israel. Israel has always had issues regarding the actual land of Israel. When Israel was first occupied it was a desert and only through land development has the land truly flourished. To ensure its basic survival, Israel must begin to address the multitude of environmental issues that plague its future, and we as Diaspora Zionists have an obligation to take the lead in making it happen.

- i. PP's will be lined up into three teams. Each line will have two buckets of water and will have to pass water using a sponge to transfer water from bucket to bucket. In order to simulate the struggles that Israel has in regards to water.
- ii. GL will then talk about the conflict that have arisen over the lack of water in Israel

The conflict over the water between Jordan and Israel has been over ever since the modern state of Israel founded. Water ownership, management, and use are among the most critical problems confronting the modern Middle East. These water problems have become interwoven with deep-seated political, demographic, economic, and even religious conflicts, making it difficult to isolate technological and legal issues that, on their own, might be equitably resolved. Reducing regional political tensions is thus a prerequisite for reaching agreements and promoting cooperative efforts among states sharing mutual resources. The Jordanian-Israeli agreements on water sharing may set an important precedent for the region, inspiring confidence that cooperation rather than conflict can relieve tensions and resolve long-standing problems.

- iii. GLs will say:

“Water in the Negev is scarce. Before 1948, most of Israel had the same problem. Now, Israel is what it is today because of the Zionists that immigrated and developed the land. This is “Ecological Zionism.”

3. Move Back to Beit Am- (01:32-01:35)

At the end of the third rotation, PPs will move back to the Beit Am for the final part of the program.

01:35-01:55 Welcome to Tel Aviv & Wrap-up

01:35-01:40 Wrap Up Statement

Jordan and Josh will be giving the following closing to the Zionism Program:



Hello and Welcome to Tel Aviv. Tel Aviv is regarded as the party city of Zionism it is known for having its many nightclubs. In the past two hours we have traveled through the beginning of the roots of Zionism and have explored the biblical roots reason for the having a Jewish state. We then moved into the foundation of the modern state of Israel and the tenants of what Israel was founded upon, as we delved farther into the modern state of Israel we explored different aspects of Zionism including Socialist Zionism, Religious Zionism focused around the preservation of the Kotel and the environmental issues that have arisen from the formation of the Jewish State. I would like to thank you all for participating in the program and hope that through the exploration of different aspects of Zionism you will be able to figure out your own personal views of Zionism and keep thinking about the struggle that is Zionism. Before we go to bed we would to give you the opportunity to experience an aspect of the nightlife of Tel Aviv.

PP's will enjoy Tel-Aviv nightlife

Appendix A:

“Shalom chalutzim. I am surprised you have made it this far and I congratulate you for doing so. However, there is still more work to be done. We are currently on ship Hatikva, sailing by cover of night to Palestine. However, you are not alone on your journey. I am a member of the underground Jewish force called the Haganah. I have no time to talk, but your fellow chalutzim will teach you a little more about what we do. I must go. Shalom.”

Appendix B

“We have just hit the shores of Palestine. However, there are more obstacles to overcome. The British guards are patrolling the surrounding area. Make sure to be quiet and follow every word your group leader says. Good luck, and Shalom.”

Appendix C

Lines for British Guards

“Shore to base... Be advised that an unidentified craft has been spotted on our shores.”



“Did you hear something?”

“Captain! Illegals have been spotted!”

“What are we going to do captain?”

Excerpts from Israel’s Declaration of Independence

May 14, 1948 (5th of Iyar, 5708)

Presented in Tel Aviv by Israel's First Prime Minister, David Ben-Gurion.

Exiled from Palestine, the Jewish people remained faithful, never ceasing to pray and hope for their return and the restoration of their national freedom.

The Nazi holocaust, which engulfed millions of Jews in Europe, proved anew the urgency of the re-establishment of the Jewish state, which would solve the problem of Jewish homelessness by opening the gates to all Jews and lifting the Jewish people to equality!

It is the self-evident right of the Jewish people to be a nation, as all other nations. Accordingly, we, the members of the National Council, hereby proclaim the establishment of the Jewish State in Palestine, to be called Israel.

THE STATE OF ISRAEL will be open to the immigration of Jews from all countries of their dispersion; will promote the development of the country for the benefit of all its inhabitants; will be based on the precepts of liberty, justice and peace taught by the Hebrew Prophets; will uphold the full social and political equality of all its citizens, without distinction of race, creed or sex; will guarantee full freedom of conscience, worship, education and culture; and will safeguard the shrines and Holy Places of all religions.

With trust in Almighty God, we set our hand to this Declaration in the city of Tel Aviv on this Sabbath eve, the fourteenth day of May, 1948.

Quotes about Zionism

Zionism means that it is good for all the Jewish People to return to the Land of Israel

--Amos Oz



Our hope is not lost; That two-thousand year hope:
To be a free people in our land; The land of Zion, of Jerusalem.
--Hatikvah

My heart is in the East and I am at the edge of the West.
--Judah Halevi

“By the rivers of Babylon we sat and we wept, remembering Zion.” By the river of Basle we sat and we decided to stop crying!
--Israel Zangwill

We want to...return to the Jews the political independence stolen from them two thousand years ago.
--Ze'ev Dubnow

So it [the Jewish People] seeks to return to its historic center, in order to live there a life of natural development...
--Ahad Ha'am

A Jews cannot be as devoted and true to his own ideas, sentiments, and imagination in the Diaspora as he can in Eretz Yisrael.
--Rav Kook

This is the meaning of the Jew's undying love for Eretz Yisrael – the Land of Holiness, the Land of God – in which all of the Divine commandments are realized in their perfect form.
--Rav Kook

Program #2: