

Someone's

IN THE KITCHEN WITH HERZL



Campers explore their own relationships with Israel by cooking up fun, short videos that highlight all five senses as they share their Israel stories with friends and family! In the process, they'll learn a bit about Theodor Herzl, the “master chef” who cooked up the idea of Modern Zionism!

While this program is modeled after popular competitive TV cooking shows, it has nothing to do with food or a kitchen! Teams work collaboratively to dream up ways to “cook” Israel — and then they create video clips to showcase at the end of the program.

PREPARATION AND IMPLEMENTATION

The Israel Resource Card on Herzl can provide basic information for campers to learn about the founder of Modern Zionism. Explain that just like Herzl combined the ingredients needed to establish the State of Israel, campers will get a chance to mix a variety of things that add up to their shared notions of Israel.

Split campers into groups. Each group should have a counselor to help guide the creative and filming process.

Challenge each group to create a segment of a cooking show. But this is no ordinary cooking show: The dish they are cooking is Israel.

To be clear, campers aren't cooking Israeli delicacies; they won't be making falafel or shakshuka. Rather, they'll be challenged to cook up THE STATE OF ISRAEL — just like Herzl did! Encourage them to think creatively, and to use all of their senses: What ingredients will they need? What does it taste like? Smell like? Feel like in your hands? In your mouth?



Tip

*This program can have even more impact if you connect it to Jewish values that your campers may be exploring in other areas of camp. Here are some that may work well: **Creativity, Understanding, Organization & Order, Patience, Groundedness.***



Fun fact

Israel's version of Master Chef is the most watched television show in Israel. The winner of its fourth season in 2014 was Israeli-Arab Nof Atamna-Ismaeel who cooks Arab food with a modern twist.



Further Exploration

The creation of a Jewish state entailed a long process that began in the 1800s and finally came into reality in 1948. Multiple Zionist ideologies informed the efforts to achieve statehood, including Political, Cultural, Religious, Socialist, Revisionist, and General/Centrist Zionism.



Each group's cooking show must include:

- > A list of ingredients
- > Steps for preparing the "dish"
- > An anecdote about someone in the group's personal experience in Israel or with Israel
- > At least one Hebrew word (not including the word "Shalom")
- > A creative title
- > A special guest chef

Every member of the group must participate in some way in the presentation of the cooking show. Be creative with this one — there are no rules as to how this is achieved.

After 10 minutes, all groups will gather for a quick check in, followed by the next set of instructions:

Using a video-camera or iPad, film your segment of the cooking show. You can spread out to find a quiet place to film, but all groups must return in a preset amount of time — it could be 10, 15, or 20 minutes — and they should bring a ready-to-show filmed cooking show segment.

The program concludes with a screening of all of the cooking show segments. Serve Israeli snacks during or after the show.

WAYS TO USE AND ENHANCE

Challenge groups to make a short video segment about the site they'd most like to visit in Israel, or to interview Israeli and North American staff members (or campers) about their favorite places in Israel.

Go full-circle on the "kitchen" theme and have groups create short videos featuring campers and staff talking about their favorite Israeli foods and how they think they're made.

Turn the screening of campers' videos into a fun "movie night" evening program. Campers' videos can even be featured as the shorts that you screen before a full-length Israeli film.

DETAILS

- > **Materials:** Video cameras, iPads, or phones, a projector, speakers, and enough staff members to ensure one can be assigned to each group.
- > **Ages:** Campers of all ages will enjoy this program! Younger campers may require more technical assistance and guidance from the counselors.
- > **Duration:** Allow 45–60 minutes for this activity, although you can spend less time during the day as campers make their videos, and then devote part of an evening program to the screening.



Tip

Many campers are probably familiar with North American versions of cooking shows. To drum up excitement for this activity, you could play some clips of their favorite shows!



Taking it home

How might you inspire campers to share their "shows" with their friends and family? Help them take this experience and really bring it to life back home!

