Notes from GHOST RANCH Gathering 2018

Clerks: Cindy and Eric
Shadow Clerks: Joseph and Julie
Nursery- Age 0 – 3 plus 3-5 year olds – Audrey Graham
Had 22 kids ages 1-10

What went well 2018:

1. Paid Staff (Audrey Graham) in Nursery 100% of time
   Not clear of her hours but think they were Thurs-Sat (8:30am-11:45pm)(12:45-5:15) Sunday: (8:30am-11:45am)
2. Kids loved the crafts & spray bottles
3. Age 0-3 in Nursery worked well. Most 3, 4, 5 yr olds preferred to be in nursery instead of with 6-10 yr olds
4. Kids liked becoming activists with IMYM Keynote Speaker (it went a bit long though)
5. Kids loved making their costumes for the skit. Would like to have more choice in choosing the skit however.
   Skit was not well rehearsed

SUGGESTED SCHEDULE:

(NOT a large span of TIME FOR CYM ACTIVITIES. Thurs, Fri, Sat 1- 5. Sun 8:30-11:15*(or 11:45 )*  

12:50-1pm: PARENT/GUARDIAN SIGNS KIDS IN

1:15pm FRIENDSHIP CIRCLE
   Circles will be informing kids of have-tos, rules, asking for their input, talking stick for checking in & out, songs, rhythm games, & circle games.

1:45-2:30 QUIET TIME  Rest in sleeping bags, story time, drawing/coloring, beading
   Need volunteers to read to 3-4s and 5-10s at these times

2:15-2:30 SNACK TIME

2:30-4:30 CRAFTS, ART, PLAY OUTSIDE, SCAVENGER HUNT, PORCH TIME, SKIT REHEARSAL, FRIDAY FIELD TRIP?
4:30-4:45 CLOSING PEACE CIRCLE  KIDS TALK WITH STICK- GIVE US THUMBS UP, THUMBS DOWN ABOUT TIME
   We’ll use what they say in Epistle (what they liked, what insights they had)

4:45 -5:15 FREE TIME, OUTSIDE, PORCH PLAY, BALL PLAYS
5-5:10: PARENT PICK UP

DIDN’T WORK SO WELL

1. Thursday pm ,
   a. Keynote Activity (2-4pm in 2018-a bit too long)

   Improvement 2019 - spread talks out over time (different days, play in between)

2. Organization of Volunteers Chaotic
   Improvement 2019
   a. Volunteer Sign in with clear time in and out slots, give volunteers a sticky note with times
   b. LANYARDS: Volunteers will all wear Lanyards with a specific color on it so kids (and clerks!) know who to go to for help  Names would help too for all of us!
3. No communication between Ghost Ranch Morning Teachers and us Improvement 2019
   Talk with GR Team Leaders about morning activities from the start of the week
   Find out clearly how to request things from them and rules about supplies, pool, land

4. Sign In- Sign Out Chaotic, Kids not kept track of very well Improvement 2019
   a. LANYARDS: Kids have lanyard name tags with their assigned number on it. Will help us keep track of who is with us each day. 3-4yr olds, 5-10 year olds different colors

5. Sign-In times for kids 12:40?
   Someone mentioned parents were really stressed getting kids signed in and getting to next place. Not sure how that works with our sign in. I’m assuming if we are there at 12:45pm parents have 15 min. They were saying that wasn’t enough time. Do we need to start sign-in earlier? Or start workshops later? I don’t know how that works....

IMYM CHILDREN'S PROGRAM 2018  J&J refers to Julie and Joseph

We had things we had to do* and extracurricular activities

   Have to’s* marked with an * Extracurricular marked with a &

1. Thurs 2-3:30 Keynote Visit* (keep to 1½ hours)
   a. J&J request to know ahead of time when coming and what the project is

2. Thurs 4:30 Epistle*- We will start this on Thursday at 4:30 circle with “thumbs up” game
   a. If someone visits about the Epistle, we need to start “writing” it at that time (Thurs 4:30).
   b. We will paint other side of canvas of 2018 Epistle. It will be out a good majority of time

3. Thurs 4:45 or Friday 1:15 Choose SKIT* Have stories to choose from at Friday’s 1:15 pm circle.
   a. How have we picked skits in past? Do Group song instead? Ask Emily Box or Audrey.
   b. *Do we let them make skit up? Don’t really have time, but should we make time? The kids would have to be dedicated to writing skit and skip other activities
   d. Start parts and costumes Friday afternoon

4. Lake Swim& on Friday 2-3:30
5. Saturday 11:30am Present Epistle* (2018)
6. Saturday 4:45-5:15 Intergenerational Meeting for Worship* (bring fidget bags, playdough)
7. Saturday 2-3pm: A lifeguard appeared and we swam&.
8. Creativity Night: (Saturday Night in 2018?) Skit*

9. OTHER NOTES:
   a. Friends Mountain Camp Visited 3pm Thurs. Please have that be on a diff day then Keynote visit!
   b. Sunday is a good stretch of fun free play between 8:30-11.
      i. Crafts will be packed up, except for Ghost Ranch stuff
      ii. We had no volunteers and 22 kids in 2018 for this time slot!
      iii. We had Audrey, Julie and Joseph with 22. Need volunteers Sunday!
   c. *Could Sunday Child Care end at 11:15am, 15 min after Worship?
      i. Was 11:45 in 2018. Julie needs to get packed up but Joseph says he can stay awhile longer.
      Is Paid Nursery person scheduled to stay til 11:45? Need a policy because Julie can’t leave if there are still 22 kids there.

10. Volunteers for Sunday 10-11am? so CYM clerks could go to worship (for a sense of connection to whole)
   a. Joseph doesn’t care but Julie would like to go at 10:30 for connection
IDEAS FOR 2019!

AGE GROUPINGS

a. **3 GROUPS: I. AGES 0-2  II. 3-4  III. 5-10**
   i. 2018: 3-4 yr olds preferred family center – need a volunteer for them
   ii. Age 0-4: Need to SIGN IN at FAMILY CENTER, not with older kids. If 3-4 s want to join 5-10s for snack, crafts, skit practice, they need to be signed in and out both places. Volunteer needs to help with this. Moving freely between places is not good practice.

b. The speaker activities, Epistle activities, and other listening were too much for the 3-5’s I believe.
c. No older than 5 yrs in Family Center unless specifically helping or resting

VOLUNTEERS:
NEED 1-2 VOLUNTEERS IN FAMILY CENTER AT ALL TIMES INCLUDING SUNDAYS! (IN ADDITION TO PAID TEACHER)

**Ratio’s: what are our guidelines?** In Colorado it’s: 1 adult to 6 kids with 2 under 2 years old/ 1 adult to 8 kids age 3 & up

**Safe practice is there should always be 2 adults in facility with child or children at any given time.**

1. Family Center: We suggest 2-3 Adults at all times. 1 Paid/ 1 Volunteer 0-3s/ 1 Volunteer for 3-5s
2. 5-10 year olds need 2 Adults at all times - Julie & Joseph + whoever volunteers
3. Come to read to kids between 1:45 & 2:30. Could have guitarists come and sing
4. JYFs SYFs – find times for them to come help read, or do crafts or scav hunt in arroyo

TO DO:

1. **HIRE A FAMILY CENTER/Nursery TEACHER 2019,** Audrey Graham still available?

2. **VOLUNTEER SIGN UP SHEET WITH Specific TIME SLOTS** – Julie will do this
   a. When do they sign up for volunteering? Wed night, early days? Thurs am?
   b. Sticky notes of schedule to volunteers
   c. Need to sign a volunteer application before shift

3. **Kid Sign-Print in/Sign-Print Out Sheet.** Child/Age/Parent/Phone#/Time in/Time Out – Joseph’s task
   a. 2 per day for Thurs, Fri, Sat, Sunday (1 in Nursery/1 in Porch Building)
   b. Plus a Special Needs Sheet to be kept with sign in sheet each day.
   c. If new kids show up after Thursday, we need to be sure and get special needs info, epipens etc from parents!
   d. Be sure parents/guardians know to sign out their kids! PLEASE

MEDICAL WEARABLE POUCH– CONTACT FORMS

1. Medical Forms need to be gone over ahead of time. Food/Bee allergies need to be highlighted on sign/in everyday. Special diets like no food coloring, sugar, gluten need to be noted.
2. **NOTE:** EVERY DAY: sign in sheet for 1. Family Center & 2. Porch house Parents/put phone# on each day.
   a. FIRST DAY: 3. A special needs/diets/medication sheet attached under the sign in sheet
   b. THIS #3 sheet needs to get put underneath each day’s #1 & #2 sign in sheets so it is available at all times. It needs to be available and confidential.
   c. Special diets: We need gluten free & dairy free snacks (applesauce?) parents can bring some too. (Otter pops with no coloring?**Score! Joseph got us 6 boxes with 12 natural popsicles in each box!)

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3. Need PORTABLE FIRST AID POUCH that attaches to body so it’s with us. Band-aids, tissues, sanitizer, personal epipens labelled for child and CONTACT PHONE NUMBERS. This goes everywhere with CYM clerks.
4. NEED SPECIFIC PLAN OR PERSON assigned to special needs kids—kids living with autism or ADHD etc.

**CURRICULUM**

1. **COORDINATE WITH MORNING Ghost Ranch STAFF** – plan our day depending on what they did that morning
   a. Farm, Museum, Lake, Arroyo, Canoe, Swim, Crafts
   b. HAVE THEM GR Staff help WITH SKIT! Pick it out, rehearse etc.
   c. Can we use the big tent that they use? It’s great for dancing, song circles and games
      Plus, we would be outside instead of inside
2. **FRIENDSHIP Circle every day at 1:15.** So we know who’s here and they know who we are. Circle games, songs, and rhythm play?
   **PEACE CIRCLE every day 4:30** in order to come together and check in? (instead of scattering off)
   Can do thumbs up, thumbs down for what we liked and disliked in day and use thumbs up in epistle

3. **CRAFTING – PUT IN THE ROOM WITH A WORKING SINK**
   a. **1 WATER COLOR TABLE** SET UP WITH CANVAS and paper FOR FREE PAINTING
   b. **1 TABLE WITH COLORING STUFF ALWAYS AVAILABLE**
   c. **ACRYLIC PAINT ACTIVITIES:** Hats, Keepsake Box, Rocks will only be out at scheduled times
   d. Beading at set times or quiet times (no under 3 yr olds with beads)
   e. Some crafts can be outside? , Need volunteers both inside and out

**SUPPLIES**

*Julie Has and May Bring*

1. Drums, rattles, rhythm sticks (song circle at beginning)
2. Cardboard paper rolls for making rattles. Can collect stones, sand to put in rattles and paint.
3. Beads, Pipe cleaners, yarn, playdough tools
4. Handprint molds
5. Paint brushes
6. Pipettes for water play
7. Meaningful, Quakerly, good read-aloud fun books
8. Flannel board?
9. Tents/tee pee?, blankets for quiet time
10. Painting water cups
11. Sewing stuff? Fabric?

*Joseph Has and Will Bring*

1. Boxes of Art Supplies from 2018 Ghost Ranch - he has cleaned and organized them all so beautifully!
2. Construction Paper, Plaster of Paris (from BFM), Magazines for collages
3. Playdough tools? (BFM)
4. Organic, non colored otter pops! Fritos
5. Color books (BFM) or dollar store
6. **LANYARDS for kids and volunteers**
7. Painting water cups (ceramic)
8. Elmer’s glue
Supplies to Purchase or Find (What is our budget?) Just ideas – can be narrowed down

1. Medical Fanny Pack Pouch, Band aids, Sanitizer
2. Beading string (stretch so it’s not chokable)
3. Baggies, clothespins, string, little playdough canisters (intergen worship ½ hour fidgets)
4. Paper plates for beading, collage, painting
5. Play dough making materials- flour, food color, salt (I have cream of tartar!)
6. White thicker paper, like construction paper, for painting
7. Acrylic squirt paints
8. Acrylic Fixative gloss for mural and painted rocks
9. Thin paint brushes for detail painting
10. Dollar Store house paint brushes for sidewalk water painting & chalk painting
11. 2 tacky glues (thicker than school glue)
12. Ball caps to decorate
13. Food/snacks:
   a. Fruit – apple sauce, or apples, or cuties (applesauce for gluten free)
   b. Chips or goldfish or graham crackers , (rice crackers/cakes for gluten free)
   c. Fruit gummy snacks? Natural

SUPPLIES PICKED UP BY IMYM STAFF – put in a truck and hopefully will bring it this year!

1. Balls and sports stuff
2. Swimming pools
3. Squirt bottles

ACTIVITIES outside Clubhouse

1. Swimming:
   a. Can PARENTS OR CLERKS get certified to help at pool?
   b. How many certified need to be at pool each time kids are there? Ratio?
      i. Joseph is getting certified in March!
   c. Need clear idea of when pool is open and plan around it
   d. If it’s only open Saturday, need ample time & volunteers to swim
2. Arroyo rules- can we do a scavenger hunt there? Can we hike the trail that crosses the arroyo?
3. Visiting a farm near by? Visiting the museum? Coordinate with am college folks

NOTES FOR PARENTS:

1. Bring a sleeping bag and pillow for quiet, reading time if you have one.
2. Be sure to sign OUT every day!
3. Be sure to sign the SEPARATE BUT CONFIDENTIAL SPECIAL NEEDS roster if your child has medical issues, food or bee allergies, epipens, or needs extra supervision/care
   -SIGN IN as usual every day
4. Bring snack if you have special food needs that we can’t accommodate
5. We can have gluten, dairy free snacks and natural popsicles but can’t accommodate sugar-free totally
VOLUNTEERS needed and appreciated. – Tell them how / when to sign up
6. Ask Parents if they’d like to bring a special activity and visit – like guitar playing and singing, or kite making