

Tiki Tonight!

Tiki Tonight! is the evening activity suggestions for camp this year. Every attempt has been made to tie the evening activity to the daily theme. All of the activities will require upfront planning in order to pull them off correctly. The last two nights' activities can lead into campfire with a little creative planning. Remember, these are not intended to be the only way to do evening activities. Rather they are to serve as a springboard for you to be creative and make them fit your age group, geographic location, and available resources.

Opening Night

A Haere mai I Tahatai...Come

Ashore

The purpose of this evening's activity is to introduce camp participants to French Polynesian culture, people and history. Resources to assist in this activity are provided on the accompanying CD. It includes music, video, and still pictures that can be used. Decorations could include a large world map or globe, shells, flowers, palm trees, sand, instruments (drums, guitars), some way to represent the ocean (material, lights), French Polynesian flag, heis (leis of shell), headdresses (flowers, plants), pareos (large squares of brightly colored cloth). There are a variety of websites available that feature Polynesian products. Simply do a web search using the "luau supplies" and a large number of hits will come up.

Scriptural references for this evening's activities are Doctrine and Covenants 161:1 b; Psalm 150; Acts 2:44-47; Ether 3:13-14 (Book of Mormon).

Creation of Island Families

Tahitians are big into families - Families of people who care for one another, not necessarily blood relatives. To create a sense of Tahitian community divide the camp into groups designated by island names. This might be done before the evening activity at check-in. Names of French Polynesian islands you may consider using are:

Mooréa	Rangiroa	Tetiaroa	Huahine
Tahiti-iti	Manihi	Tahiti	Tikehau
Makatea	Tahaa	Bora Bora	Raiatea

Be sure to explain that the creation of these groups is not to elevate one group above others or to create competition.

Suggested Activities

Joke-o-Round

Tahitians are fun-loving people! They enjoy laughing and good-natured teasing. Include opportunities during the evening for youth to tell jokes (Be sure to screen jokes. Tahitians are respectful and would not tell jokes that offend or put down someone).

Singing

Tahitians are singing people! Include the opportunity for singing in the opening activity. Have students sing songs that include water, boats and islands that they know from their own culture. This could include such crazy antics as singing "Amazing Grace" to the tune of the Gilligan's Island theme song.

Food

Food is important to Tahitians! Include snacks in this opening activity such as coconuts, pineapple, oranges, papaya, mango, guava, bananas, tamarind, and sweet potatoes. Include fish and chicken.

Create Rules

Tahitians love to create their own rules. Use this opportunity for campers to create the rules for camp. While they may forget a few the staff will need to include, if most of the rules are shared by campers - they are more likely to have ownership of the rules, and more likely to abide by them.

Island Flags

In the island families, have each group create their own flag. Give each group a piece of poster board, paper, or other material. Using symbols found elsewhere in this resource and on the CD, show symbols that could be included on their flag. Instruct each group that they must put on their flag Te E'a C Te Hau

(Path of Peace). Samples of French Polynesian flags can be found on different websites. Symbols include honou (turtle), canoe, paddle, stingray, Tiki (god with sword), wave, orca and black pearl.

Worship Element First night only

For a worship component on this night, teach and sing “Kum Ba Yah” from the accompanying CD. Explain how this song invites God to be with us at our camp. Using the scriptural references and the following questions, lead a camp- wide discussion.

Ether 3:13-14 (Book of Mormon). Read aloud or present in a creative way using campers. Then discuss the following questions.

1. How do we create the promised land referred to in this scripture this week here at camp?
2. How do we receive God’s promises for us?
3. What do we need to leave behind before we come ashore?

Acts 2:44-47 (New Testament). Read aloud or present in a creative way using campers. Then discuss the following questions.

How do we “hold all things in common”? What are the advantages of community?

What is our responsibility to one another?

How does our connectedness require us to be vulnerable?

Psalm 150 (Old Testament). Read aloud or present in a creative way using campers. Then discuss the following questions.

1. Music is an important part of Tahitian worship. How important is it to you? Us? Our culture?
2. Do we praise God with our all?
3. How will we create a culture of praise this week?

Day one:Te Tereraa...Journey

TRUTH: Global warming is causing the sea level to rise all around the world. This is causing real problems in the South Pacific where many islands and atolls have precious few feet of total elevation above sea level. While the scenario below is fictitious, hey, it could happen.

Island Hop

Scenario for the Islanders

You and your group are on an island when you hear a news flash announcing that a major portion of Antarctica has broken off and is now floating free causing the sea level to rise rapidly (let alone the mega tsunami that could be headed your way). Your scientists quickly figure that your island will shortly be under water. Using the available resources you must find a way to get your population off the island to safety.

You must be on your guard throughout the process of relocating. Sharks have been known to inhabit these waters. In case of a shark attack remember there is safety in numbers. It is also known that sharks will be driven away with the singing of “Kum Bay Yah”, island style. You must also know that bad things happen if someone touches the water. Likewise, if one of your “4x4’s” touches the water, it is immediately swept out to sea. The clock is ticking and soon you will not be able to stay where you are. You must begin your journey to safety. Good luck!

Technical Details

Normally this activity is done using four finished cedar 4”x4”x8’. The cedar is strong and lightweight. Be sure they are finished as campers will be handling them repeatedly. The island platforms that they will bridge to usually are 2’x2’ plywood framed with 2’x4’s. You can use a variety of objects for the island platforms but they do need to be stable and no higher than 5”off the ground. Use two ropes: one to indicate the area where they begin and one to indicate where they are headed.

Facilitator Directions

Tonight you will need to divide into small groups of approximately 10-12 campers. Each group will need one adult facilitator trained in Island Hop and able to guide campers through the experience. The guides will need to interpret the initiative and make rulings when campers may want to bend or change rules. Sometimes these may be creative and you may be inclined to go along, but do not give away too much. Be prepared to hand out physical limitations for campers or 4’ x 4’s touching the “water” (often the 4’ x 4’ can be removed as a resource carried away by ocean waves, but ,can be given back at a later time if you are feeling generous). Occasionally you will declare a shark attack at which time you will place a cut out of a boat or life preserver or slightly larger piece of land where islanders can take refuge. This should not be larger then about 4’x 5’ or small enough so they really have to cram to fit. Have the group sing the new version of “Kum Ba Yah” to drive the sharks away.

You can also place treats along the way as reward for the group. Suggested items include water to drink, snack to eat, medicine to fix anyone who has experienced some affliction along the way or returning a 4’x 4’ if it has been swept out to sea along the way.

Source: This activity has been described in numerous teambuilding books using a variety of names. Our version has some extra elements added for your enjoyment.

Day Two: Te ite Matamuara'a... Discover

Sim Tiona

Scenario for Islanders

Tonight we will discover what we can create together. Utilizing the materials provided we will work to create a beautiful city.

Technical Details

This activity is best done at the beach or on a sand volleyball court. If neither is available, you will need to improvise or choose a different activity.

Provide each island group with a plot of land or a given amount of sand. In addition to sand they will need water and tools often found at the beach in the hands of people engaged in the time-honored tradition of Sand Castle building.

Facilitator Directions

Divide into groups small enough that all campers can participate. Give each group the following: a piece of the beach, a sack of sand or whatever building material you choose; beach or hand gardening tools, water to help sand be workable.

Invite campers to create a sand city that can represent Tiona-Zion to them. If campers are working in close proximity, invite them to connect with other cities by way of roads (most groups will have already figured that out).

A theme song suggestion for this activity is "Beautiful City" from *Godspell*. The point is to discover that Tiona -Zion is a result of God dwelling with us in community, not the appearance of our buildings.

Be sure to take pictures for the camp log.

Day Three: Oraraa Varua. . Spiritual Quest

Tonight's activity is a series of events that will culminate in a Communion service. Parts of this service will be done in harmony the first communion service in 1844 on the beach of Mahu, Tubuai. The Communion service can be combined with a time of commitment.

Scenario for Campers

Tonight you will continue on the path of peace through a variety of stations and activities designed to assist you on this day of Oraraa Varua. . .Spiritual Quest. What you get out of it is equal to what you will put into it.

Prayer Station

The prayer station can be set up with a series of leading statements that campers have the chance to answer.

- | | |
|----------------|--------------------------------------|
| • Praise | Creator, I praise your name for. |
| • Confession | Loving Parent, forgive me for. |
| • Intercession | Dear God, tonight I am mindful of... |

Meditation Station

This station is designed to allow campers to spend time in a quiet setting and to reflect on a

series of questions and scriptures that you choose. The questions should reflect the discussion and issues that have been prevalent through your time together during the week.

Provide

questions and scriptures for campers to reflect on.

small votive candles for campers to light and either a long-handled lighter or a long tapered candle to use lighting the candles and soft music such as ocean waves.

Fasting Station

Provide

examples of the kind of fasting that is available for people.

commitment forms for campers to write out their commitment to fasting as a part of their individual discipleship,

someone who has made fasting a part of their individual discipleship to talk about fasting and answer camper questions.

Music Station

Provide

song leader to lead songs and a discussion of why we sing and lift songs up to God and a chance for campers to sing songs that are meaningful to them.

Administration Station

Have a team of Meicheisdec priesthood members available to provide administration or to pray with campers if they so desire. They can also instruct about the sacrament of the laying on of hands.

Communion Service

Having chosen your location ahead of time, have all campers gather where you have prepared for Communion. You may choose to replicate the symbols used at the first Polynesian Communion which included coconut milk and bread. Allow time for campers to share testimonies and commitments

Day Four: Te Amuiraa Taata...Community

Celebrate Community!

Scenario for Islanders

Tonight we celebrate the community we have formed this week. This celebration can include many elements found at a luau on the beach. For Tahitians this would include a Tahitian oven..

Technical Details

Here are a few possible games and activities. You can look back to the opening night for other activities. Food can include the roasting of a Pig on an open pit if you have someone in your community who is knowledgeable as well as many fruits you might have used for opening night of camp.

Volleyball

Canoe Races, very popular in most Polynesian cultures. One suggestion is to set up an obstacle course with gallon milk jugs that have a rope and anchor. Always use caution and good judgment when using the waterfront area. Pay attention to weather conditions, utilize plenty of lifeguards, lookouts, and designate a rescue boat. Be sure to do a complete analysis of the event and risk areas as you plan your event.

Beach music/ Limbo

Culminate the event with a upbeat campfire that celebrates the community the camp has created.