Congregation Tifereth Israel



Shabbat on the Beach 2011



Contact person: rsvp <u>frklopfer@gmail.net</u>

This program is suitable for children Preschool through 6 years old–Bring your friends!

Congregation Tifereth Israel 40 Hill Street * Glen Cove, NY 11542 * (516) 676-5080 Www.ctionline.org **Time: 5PM-6:30PM**

Date: Friday, July 29

Location:

Tappan Beach Park

Congregation Tifereth
Israel and PJ Library
present:

Young Family Shabbat on the Beach.

We will be creating
"Something From
Nothing"

Join us for a fun filled
program of crafts, beach
scavenger hunt, picnic
dinner and Shabbat.
Bring: a blanket, a
picnic dinner - we will
provide dessert and
drinks

PJ Library Shabbat on the Beach 2011

We live in a beach community on Long Island, New York, which is a place that attracts young families all summer. It seemed an ideal place to celebrate Shabbat on a summer Friday evening. We were able to reserve a large space near the beach, which had picnic tables, and a gazebo where we could hold the service. There was also an area where families could spread out blankets as well as a playground.

The flyers were mailed to PJ Library families and were hung in places frequented by families such as the library, the post office, and some local stores. Families were encouraged to call friends and invite them.

The families arrived at 5:30 (?) pm and set up their blankets. The children were able to play on the playground while we waited for everyone to assemble. Once gathered, using a story telling doll, the PJ story "Something for Nothing" was told. The children were then told they would go on a scavenger hunt with their parents to collect shells, rocks and driftwood. They would then come back to the picnic tables to "make something out of nothing." We provided glue, paint, feathers, markers and glitter. Parents and children worked together on their projects. When it was time for services, the children brought their projects to the gazebo area to share. The rabbi and cantor, with guitar, conducted a brief Shabbat service, which included wine, challah and blessing of the children.

Families went back to their blankets to eat. We provided drinks and dessert. As soon as the children finished eating, they returned to the playground. Families stayed long after the program was finished to enjoy the beach. Each child was given as a "take away" a beach ball with a sticker on it that said it was from PJ Library.

We had forty-five people attend including several new enrollees. Our presence at the beach caused several people to stop by and ask about our program. To us, the major evidence of success was how long after the program ended, adults stayed to talk, and children to play. We had requests to make this an annual event.

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