

The Nine Pages

Eight activities

Activity 1: Two different well-run groups

"She ran the group well" and "she ran it in a way that only works when she's in the room" are presented as different things. In your own words, what is the difference? Which one describes the first five chapters? Two or three sentences.

Activity 2: The eleven-second handoff

List four things Aidel knew in Chapter 1 that Matti did not have on the away Shabbos. For each, say where the knowledge lived (written anywhere, or only in Aidel's head). Then find the moment in Chapter 2 or 3 where Aidel could have changed that, and did not. Short answers, with chapter numbers.

Activity 3: Order the repair

Put these in the order the story does them, and explain why the order matters: (a) the folder is reviewed by another leader and improved; (b) Aidel writes the nine pages; (c) Matti leads while Aidel only watches; (d) the away week collapses; (e) the rotation of four leaders is agreed. One sentence on why the order matters.

Activity 4: The hours - a made-up set of numbers

The numbers in this activity are made up for practice. A group meets 44 Shabbos afternoons a year. One leader doing everything spends about 3 hours a week on it - prep, the two hours, and cleanup. (a) How many hours is that in a year? (b) With a rotation of 4 leaders, each leader covers 11 afternoons. If each turn costs that leader about 2.5 hours (less prep, because the folder exists), how many hours does each leader give in a year? (c) Writing the folder costs one long evening - 4 hours, once. In the first year, does the folder pay for itself in hours? Show your steps, and name one thing the hours do not measure.

Activity 5: "It is not nothing."

Matti says, "You make it look like nothing. It is not nothing." What is the "it"? Whose work made it look like nothing, and why did it look that way? Why is Matti the right person to say this line? Two or three sentences.

Activity 6: Draw the folder

Draw or outline the folder as the story builds it: nine pages, then ten. Label each page with its job, and mark the page that exists because Matti found a hole. Only what the story tells you. Caption it with one line from the story.

Activity 7: Leila's welcome table - a fictional case

A teen named Leila runs the grade's welcome table for new students - she knows which teachers to introduce, which forms the office wants, where the spare schedules live, and which girls will walk a newcomer to lunch. It is all in her head. She is home sick the day a new girl arrives. Write the three pages she puts in her welcome folder afterward, the person she teaches it to, and one way she tests that the folder works. One sentence each, with names.

Activity 8: Word grid

Find the eight words in the grid. They all go left to right, one per row.

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F O L D E R W B F Y
L E A D E R N O R S
G A M E S I Q Z X J
C L O S E T G H U P
S N A C K S T C D E
S O N G S J K V W B
L A T C H P L M N O
R O T A T I O N Q Z
X J K V W B F Y G H
U P L M N O R S T C

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The eight words: FOLDER, LEADER, GAMES, CLOSET, SNACKS, SONGS, LATCH, ROTATION.
Which word names the object that lets a group survive its leader, and which word names the system that gives twelve girls four leaders?