

*The following document contains concerns and questions that participants offered at the December 9, 2003 Tartak Interactive Lunch & Learn on Hebrew education.*

*Do you have any responses or ideas about how to handle these issues? Have you tried anything that has worked or provided insight?*

*Share your idea, [tartak@huc.edu](mailto:tartak@huc.edu). We will post responses, so that members of our community can support and strengthen each other's work. Suggestions can be found on our website, [www.huc.edu/tartak/events.html](http://www.huc.edu/tartak/events.html) under Dec. 9 Hebrew. Todah Rabbah!*

### **Conundrums and Questions in Teaching Hebrew**

#### **Teaching Adults**

- How do I teach adults who are very beginning Hebrew students?
- How do I teach a group of adults who are all at different skill levels?
- How do I help teens and adults learn Hebrew without an organized class (i.e. tapes, CD-ROMs, books)?
- How do I teach adults Hebrew and prevent them from feeling childish?
- How much Hebrew should I be teaching to my adult students (i.e. grammar, decoding, vocabulary)?

#### **Making Hebrew Exciting**

- What ideas can I use to teach Hebrew to very active students?
- How do I come up with games that can be used in a one-on-one tutoring session?
- How can I make my Hebrew classes more exciting, fun and reinforcing for children?

#### **Multiple Level Issues**

- What do I do with the few students who learn Hebrew much more quickly than the rest of the class?
- How do I deal with different levels of knowledge and ability in the same classroom?

#### **Learning Diversity Issues**

- How do I help a child who reverses letters or who has directional problems when they look at Hebrew text?
- How do I help students to remember what they learn from year to year?

#### **Time Limitation and Curricular Issues**

- How do I teach Hebrew in 1-2 hours per week?

- Given limited instruction time, what do I focus on in my teaching?
- Given limited instruction time, how do I actually achieve a level of competence beyond basic reading and very basic vocabulary in a religious school setting?
- How should I define competence in a religious school setting?
- Where should I begin teaching *siddur* Hebrew?
- How do I help students learn what they need to for their Bat or Bar Mitzvah in one hour per week?
- Where can I find developmentally appropriate materials for modern, *siddur*, Biblical and/or spoken Hebrew?

### **Emotional Issues**

- How can I help students learn when they react very negatively and emotionally toward suggestions that they “try again.”
- How can I avoid embarrassing students who do not like to read aloud?
- How do I instill in students a love of Hebrew?