

I. Using the Internet

1. Check links to websites known to contain Jewish content:
 - a. www.myjewishlearning.com
 - b. www.urj.org (mostly book references, but Family Shabbat Talk and other learning resources may prove helpful)
 - c. www.caje.org (if you're a member of CAJE, use your password to access curriculum banks)
 - d. www.socialaction.com (check out the articles under environmental issues for references)

2. Use Google to search various topics:
 - a. Judaism & Environment
 - b. Jewish Ecology
 - c. Jewish Values, Environment
 - d. Jewish Values, Ecology
 - e. Bal Tashchit
 - f. EcoJudaism
 - g. EcoKashrut

3. Once you find references to Jewish thought on the environment:
 - a. Look for any Rabbinic reference in articles
 - b. Look at footnotes & bibliographies for references to Rabbinic texts
 - c. Look for other terms/values that would be useful as search keywords
 - i. Shmirat Haguf (Guarding the body)
 - ii. Tzaar Ba'alei Chayim (Causing pain and suffering to animals)
 - iii. L'avdah ul'shamrah (To work and protect the earth)
 - iv. Tikkun Olam

II. Results of Search: Websites and What They Contain

<http://www.wzo.org.il/en/resources/view.asp?id=63&subject=24>

- Article and Guided Study with references to Kiddushin 32a & Shabbat 67b
- Helpful because it has guided analysis of *ba'al tashchit* with Biblical and rabbinical references

http://www.yhol.org.il/features/baltash_bleiweiss.htm

- Essay with reference to Shabbat 105b & Kiddushin 32a & *Taanit* 20b
- Helpful because it discusses the idea of justification of destructive anger

<http://www.coejl.org/learn/index.php>

- Link within the Coalition on the Environment and Jewish Life with a multitude of links to articles about Judaism and the Environment
- Helpful because the bibliographic information at the end of each article leads to further search terms and references

<http://www.jewishveg.com/schwartz/hlydys1.html>

- Article about Tu B'shevat and vegetarianism with reference to Kiddushin 66d, Baba Batra 2, Baba Batra 158b, Kiddushin 32a, Shabbat 10a
- Helpful because it brought up the idea of Jewish holidays and their link to ecology as well as a different topic such as vegetarianism

<http://www.benporatyosef.org/etzahaim/halakha/wasting.htm>

- Articles about Ba'al Tashchit with lots of resources including Baba Kamah 91b, Taanit 20b, Rosh Hashana 27a, Avodah Zarah 11a, Ketubot 8b, Shabbat 140a, Baba Metzia 32b, Hagiga 3b, Sheviit 4:10, Shabbat 129a
- Helpful because of large assortment of bibliographic references

http://www.moshiach.com/temple/articles/essay_the_legalities_of_destruction.php

- Article relating the destruction of the Temple with reference to Mishneh Torah
- Helpful because it brings up the idea of constructing versus destructing

<http://canfeinesharim.org/tragedy.htm>

- Essay about the destruction of "common lands" with reference to Baba Kamma 50b
- Suggests a personal perspective on taking responsibility

<http://www.tevacenter.org/resources.asp>

- Main page for the Teva Learning Center, an organization that provides experiences for individuals to connect with the beauty of God's creation in a Jewish context
- Helpful because it provides various other websites with links to Jewish oriented materials and ecology

<http://www.ecojew.com/avdah/laws.html>

- Directed to this link through the Teva site
- Site includes articles on various Jewish laws related to ecology
- Helpful because it provided other topics for framing a search (i.e., other ideas to link into Judaism and ecology besides *ba'al tashchit*)

III. Searching Textbooks

1. Check the table of contents and/or index of:
 - a. General books on Jewish practice or mitzvot:
 - b. Books on ethics, social action, or *tikkun olam*
 - c. Books containing surveys of rabbinic literature
 - d. The A.R.E. series on Teaching (*Teaching Mitzvot, Teaching Jewish Virtues, Teaching Hot Topics*)
 - e. The *Encyclopedia Judaica*. The Lainer Beit Midrash has 3 copies of the CD-ROM edition of the *EJ*; the discs are stored in the Tartak Center office.
2. Check the footnotes and bibliographies of useful articles/books for “links” to other materials.
3. Several source-texts will appear in various contemporary books and contexts; pick the translation or interpretation that is best for your learners.

IV. Results of Search: Books and What They Contain (in addition to Tanakh)

1. Vorspan, Albert and David Saperstein, *Jewish Dimensions of Social Justice: Tough Moral Choices of Our Time* (UAHC Press, 1998)
 - Chapter on “The Environmental Crisis” contains references to Shabbat 77b, Ecclesiastes Rabbah 7:13, Kiddushin 4:12, Genesis Rabbah 10:7
2. Isaacs, Ronald H., *A Taste of Text: An Introduction to the Talmud and Midrash* (UAHC Press, 2003)
 - Chapter on Kindness to Animals with references to Baba M’tzia 85a, Mishneh Torah 13:13, Shabbat 128b, (Jer) Y’vamot 15:3, Shulchan Aruch
3. Klagsbrun, Francine, *Voices of Wisdom: Jewish Ideals and Ethics for Everyday Living* (Jonathan David Publishers, 1980)
 - Sections on Protecting the Environment, Showing Kindness to Animals with references to Kiddushin 4:12, Bava Batra 2:9, Bava Kamma 82b, Genesis Rabbah 10:7, Berakhot 40a...
4. Schwartz, Richard H, Ph.D., *Judaism and Global Survival* (Lantern Books, 2002)
 - Chapter on Ecology, Annotated Bibliography. References to Ecclesiastes Rabbah 7:28, Sefer HaHinuch
5. Kadden, Barbara Binder and Bruce Kadden, *Teaching Mitzvot* (A.R.E. Publishing, 2003)
 - Chapter on Being Kind to Animals, list of relevant websites. References to Guide to the Perplexed, Baba Metzia 85a, Shabbat 128b, Berachot 40a
6. Freeman, Susan, *Teaching Hot Topics* (A.R.E. Publishing, 2003)
 - Chapter on Animal Experimentation, Bibliography. Contains references to Baba Metzia 85a, Gittin 62a, Kiddushin 82b, Ecclesiastes Rabbah 7:28

V. Bar Ilan Searches

A search for the term *צער בעלי חיים* yielded multiple citations. In particular, two Talmudic passages, b. Shabbat 117b and b. Baba Metzia 31a-33a, use the term several times (in the Shabbat passage, the term is used five times and in the BM passage it appears over fifteen times) – the repetition of the term suggests that these might be worth looking at. The term is also used several times in a midrash collection, Yalkut Shimoni, Mishpatim sections 351-352. It appears frequently in post-talmudic literature as well.

The phrase *לעבדה ולשמרה* appears approximately fifty times in the Bar Ilan. About ten of these are in commentaries on the Torah. Several references in Avot deRabbi Nathan (version A, ch. 11, version B, ch. 21) discuss Adam's work in the Garden of Eden. Many of the references are from midrash collections, expounding on Genesis 2.

VI. Torah HaKetuvah veHaMesorah (Aaron Hyman, Devir: 1979)

This three volume work lists every verse in the Bible and then lists references to/citations of the verse in rabbinic literature. It could be useful in situations when the Bar Ilan is not – Bar Ilan requires exact wording, while this set requires only knowledge that such a verse exists, not the exact word in the verse that prompts a drash or comment. Obviously, you may get more than you bargained for – a verse might be cited in instances that don't interest you – but if you are interested in early rabbinic uses of a given verse, this is a great tool.

Bonus: There is a mishnah in Baba Qamma (BQ 7:7) that discusses environmental issues, specifically soil erosion. One could check the Talmud on that mishnah in hopes of finding additional discussions. Another interesting avenue of inquiry might be the laws of the Sabbatical year (Mishnah Shevi'it, Maimonides Mishneh Torah).

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2. Use Google to search various topics:
 - a. Jewish Weddings : reveals lots of ways to plan a wedding as well as many customs but no rabbinic sources
 - b. "Rabbinic Source" & Jewish Weddings
 - c. Weddings & mishna
3. Once you find references to Jewish thought on weddings:
 - a. Look for any Rabbinic reference in articles
 - b. Look at footnotes & bibliographies for references to Rabbinic texts
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II. Results of Search: Websites and What They Contain

<http://www.shalomspirit.org/id23.html>

- Article about holding weddings on Shabbat with references to Mishnah Yoma I. 1 & Mishnah Bezah V. 2 & Bezah 36b
- Helpful because it introduces a controversy about when ceremonies can be held

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jewish_view_of_marriage

- Encyclopedia article on Jewish marriage with reference to Kiddushim 1.1
- Includes links to various topics associated with Jewish marriage such as niddah

http://wujs.org.il/activist/programmes/sources/life_cycle/marriage.shtml

- Text sources on marriage from Bible, Talmud, as well as contemporary Jewish thinkers and response
- Helpful because it lists various texts with references to Mishnah Kiddushin 2:1, Ketubot 7b, Sotah 17a, Ketubot 7; Rambam's Hilchot Ishut 10:1, Ketubot 82b, Yevamot 62b

III. Searching Textbooks

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2. Check the footnotes and bibliographies of useful articles/books for “links” to other materials.

IV. Results of Search: Books and What They Contain (in addition to Tanakh)

1. There are several books in the Tartak Center that describe the history of Jewish wedding ceremonies and contemporary rituals and blessings. Most of these do NOT cite specific rabbinic texts.
2. Goodman, Philip and Hanna, *The Jewish Marriage Anthology* (The Jewish Publication Society, 1971)
 - Chapters entitled “Marriage in the Talmud” and “Marriage in the Midrash.” A variety of Talmudic and Midrashic quotations are included.
3. Isaacs, Ronald H., *A Taste of Text: An Introduction to the Talmud and Midrash* (UAHC Press, 2003)
 - Chapter on Marriage with a variety of texts from Midrash Pesikta de Rav Kahana, Sotah 17a, Y’vamos 62b, Shulchan Aruch, Derech Eretz Zuta 56a, and more.

V.Scholarship

Ilan, Tal, *Jewish Women in Greco-Roman Palestine* (Hendrickson Publishers, 1996)

Ilan's book contains material on marriage, including a brief discussion of the marriage ceremony with citations from rabbinic literature.

Satlow, Michael, *Jewish Marriage in Antiquity* (Princeton University Press, 2001)

While most of Satlow's book focuses on marriage in general, there is one chapter that focuses on the marriage ceremony. Satlow's book is rich in citations of rabbinic texts, some of which are directly related to the wedding.

Valler, Shulamit, *Women and Womanhood in the Talmud* (Scholars Press, 1999)

Valler's book, an analysis of several Talmudic passages, contains a chapter entitled "How Do We Dance before the Bride" which discusses reports of wedding celebrations in the Babylonian Talmud, specifically b. Ketubot 16b-17a)

VI.Collections of Rabbinic Texts

Sefer Aggadah/The Book of Legends, see "wedding," "wedding canopy," and "wedding feast" in the English index (*The Book of Legends*) and חופה, נשואים, and התן וכלה in the Hebrew index (*Sefer Aggadah*).

VII.Bar Ilan Searches

A search for שבע ברכות yielded no appropriate references in early rabbinic texts (i.e. Mishnah/Tosefta, Talmud, classical midrash). In fact, the search revealed that the term is used in classical rabbinic literature to refer to the Shabbat Amidah and to other groupings of blessings. The blessings recited at a wedding are first referred to as שבע ברכות in the geonic period; from that point onward, the Bar Ilan provides many useful references.

A search of an alternative term for the blessings recited under the huppah, ברכת התנים, was much more productive, yielding references in the Mishnah/Tosefta, Talmud and midrash, as well as later texts. One of these sources, b. Ketubot 7b, includes the text of the Sheva Berakhot.

The term חופה is widely used in rabbinic literature (approximately 13,000 citations). Ironically, the plentitude of citations makes checking on individual citations problematic. A quick check reveals that the term is used in several ways in early rabbinic texts, including as a reference to the marriage ceremony.