

TARTAK LEARNING CENTER

RESOURCES RENEWED

מקורות מתחדשים

Volume 5, Issue 4

April 2007

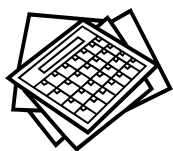
Summer Holidays & Resources

- Does your Religious School teaching job run until June? Are you working at camp this summer? You might need to know that:
 - Lag B'Omer is May 6.
 - Yom Yerushalayim is May 16.
 - Shavuot is May 23.
 - Tisha B'Av is July 24.
- The Tartak Learning Center has materials to help you prepare to worship in recognition of these events, or to teach about them.

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Tartak Learning Center Hours



Monday - Thursday

9:00 - 5:00

Friday: 9:00 - 3:00



You are always welcome to come browse the Tartak Learning Center in person in *HaMercaz* or online at www.huc.edu/tartak.

מה חדש? *What's Nu?*

Dearest Chevre-

Sadly, this will constitute my last note to you in my capacity as the Tartak Learning Center intern. Next year, you will find me serving as an 8th grade Mishnah teacher at Milken Community High School. I am really looking forward to transitioning back to the classroom, but alas, I will miss our time together on those comfy Tartak couches.

It has been an amazing two years full of discovery, laughter, Torah, and study! Lynn and I have really enjoyed our time together working hard to meet the educational needs of our public. Lynn has guided me with such tremendous grace and I truly appreciate her support and her leadership. As my classmates, teachers, and future colleagues, you all have challenged me in different ways. Your requests for educational materials and resources as well as the many thought provoking conversations we have had over treats from the "Tartak Carb-Buffer" (lovingly supplied by the Tartak Learning Center) have helped me gain a deeper understanding of what Jewish educators need in order to transmit our tradition.

A text from Ecclesiastes 4:10-11 reminds me of just how precious it is to find partners in the journey of education: "Two are better off than one, in that they derive greater benefit from their efforts." I know that I am better off having served as the Tartak intern and I hope that all of you feel the same way. Thank you for sharing this part of the journey with me. I am looking forward to our meeting again in the very near future!

*-Ann Sanguinet
Tartak Intern*

Recent Acquisitions

- **American Jewish History Posters**

The Tartak Learning Center recently purchased a display rack for posters and maps. We've had two sets of American Jewish history posters here since we commemorated the 350th anniversary of American Judaism in 2004, but we had no way to showcase them. Now, one set of posters is on display, and you can borrow the second set for use in your classrooms. We hope to add to our poster collection next year.

- **URJ *Chai* Curriculum**

We've received the latest volumes in the URJ's Judaica curriculum. The *CHAI* Curriculum is designed to facilitate lifelong Jewish learning within Reform congregations. It focuses classroom learning on *Torah*, *Avodah* and *G'milut Chasadim* and expands beyond these topics in other educational programs. *CHAI* lessons are based on the "Understanding By Design" curriculum development model, which is widely used in the field of general education.

- **URJ *Mitkadem***

We also have the latest volumes in the URJ's Hebrew program. *Mitkadem* is an exciting five-year Hebrew curriculum that will generate enthusiasm and excitement from teachers, students and parents. Students will learn to read Hebrew and enjoy a sense of accomplishment as they progress through a series of well-organized, stimulating, and self-paced *ramot* (levels). *Mitkadem's* self-paced and child-centered approach allows each student to achieve according to his/her own ability, so learning challenged students and frequent absentees feel successful as well as those students who are very motivated and catch on quickly. The *Mitkadem* approach helps every teacher feel capable and confident of administering this program to all different kinds of student learners, identifying those students who need additional help early on.

- **A Taste of Hebrew** by Rabbi Aaron Starr

This book was conceived as the perfect way to learn the letters and vowels without being overwhelmed by exercises and drills. Rabbi Starr includes interesting extras like brief commentaries related to the letters and tidbits on the prayers that you can peruse as you study. A prequel to [Aleph Isn't Tough](#) and the rest of the Hebrew for Adults series, this slim volume makes it easy to learn independently or in a class. Ideal for parents who want to be able to help their children with religious school homework, or anyone wanting to take a first step into Hebrew.

- **Coming soon: 10 New Curriculum Guides**

We are eagerly awaiting the curriculum guides prepared by the Rhea Hirsch School of Education class of 2007. Our website will have summaries early this summer, and our Quad 1 newsletter next fall will have highlights, too.

Hebrew Union College-
Jewish Institute of Religion



Tartak Learning Center

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Student Intern: Ann Sanguinet, MAJE '07

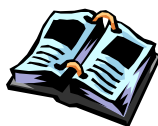
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Thinking Ahead



The next academic year will bring new Resource Drives, new Lunch & Learn sessions, and more new materials for you. Suggestions are welcome!!

Out of Sight... But Still On Site

Graduates/Ordainees: You can keep up with the Tartak Center and its materials at our website

<http://www.huc.edu/tartak>

Director's Cut

Almost two years have passed since I became Director of the Tartak Learning Center. It's been another rewarding year, during which we ran five resource drives, hosted three lunchtime learning sessions, and produced four newsletters.

Tartak student intern Ann Sanguinet has played an important role in preparing for all of these programs, and I've watched her help so many of you find materials for your teaching and pulpit obligations. She will be leaving the Tartak Learning Center upon her graduation from the Rhea Hirsch School of Education here at HUC, and I wish her much success in her new role as a middle school teacher at Milken Community High School in Los Angeles.

Have a great summer!

— Lynn