

TARTAK LEARNING CENTER

RESOURCES RENEWED

מקורות מתחדשים

Volume 6, Issue 3

March 2008

This Just In...

From the URJ Press:

- *Mitkadem* Hebrew materials for Ramah 19-22
- *Life, Faith, and Cancer* edited by Douglas J. Kohn
- *The Shabbat Anthology IV (Book & CD)*
- *CHAI Curriculum* materials for Level 1
- *A Taste of Torah: An Introduction to Thirteen Challenging Bible Stories* by Ronald H. Isaacs.
- *To Honor and Respect: A Program and Resource Guide for Congregations on Sacred Aging* by Richard F. Address and Andrew Rosenkranz

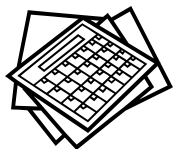
From Jewish Lights Publishing:

- *The Jewish Prophet: Visionary Words from Moses and Miriam to Henrietta Szold and A.J. Heschel* by Rabbi Dr. Michael J. Shire.

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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.

THE FIRST SEDER IS SATURDAY, APRIL 19, 2008

In the leader's guide to his Haggadah, *A Different Night*, Noam Zion describes the ways that different kinds of seder leaders take on the role of educating the seder participants in different ways. When we view the seder as an opportunity for education, it broadens our ability to use exciting and creative methods for telling our story.

Below are several examples of ways that member of the HUC community have experienced the seder as a creative opportunity for education:

"I made an activity book with stickers for my cousin to follow along with the seder. It made it fun for him. He was able to know what the different parts were, and most importantly, when it was time for dinner."

-Luisa Moss, Education student

"Hiding the Afikomen at my synagogue seder has been an evolving process. The first few times it was an actual piece of matzah. It slowly evolved to hundreds of pieces of laminated butcher paper that was colored to look like matzah. It wasn't quite the same for me, but there was definite value in giving lots of other kids the joy of finding the Afikomen."

-Ben Bloom, Jewish Communal Service Student

"One of my favorite seder activities in recent years came from Tali Hyman. We told the story of the Exodus, and each person had to add a sentence. The rule was that the first word of the sentence had to come in alphabetical order. Everyone rolled their eyes — but people really rose to the creative challenge. One of our guests had never even been to a seder, but he was still able to add a sentence. We actually got to the content of the Exodus story. I was amazed at how educational it really was!"

-Isa Aron, Rhea Hirsch School of Education professor

"I once did an educational seder with 15 events, 1 for each section of the seder. For *Kadesh* there was a speed recitation of *Kiddush*, and for *urchatz* you had to divide the teams as quickly as possible into two even groups. *Karpas* was a celery-eating competition. This built and fostered a familiarity with the stages of the seder, and allowed the participants to retell the story of the Exodus from Egypt. It was a lot of fun, and it built up a lot of momentum and excitement about Pesach."

-Gersh Lazarow, Rabbinical student

"My dad always tells the joke about the Hillel sandwich being a 'hero sandwich'... you know, 'cause Hillel was a hero..."

-Rena Polonsky, Rab/Ed student

When it's your turn to lead, how will you seize the opportunity to teach something new?

Compiled by Sara Mason, Tartak Learning Center Intern

Education Students' Articles on Tartak Website

At the end of the fall 2007 semester, Tali Hyman of the Rhea Hirsch School of Education at HUC-LA and Lisa Grant of the School of Education at HUC-NY gave the same final assignment to their students in Social Foundations (LA), and History of Jewish Education in America (NY.)

The students were asked to write a 4-6 page article (double spaced) grounded in the scholarship of the field that is suitable for a publication to which reflective practitioners of Jewish education are invited to contribute. For example: Agenda: Jewish Education (JESNA), Jewish Education News (CAJE), Jewish Educational Leadership (Lookstein Center, Bar Ilan University).

A list of the articles is below. The complete assignment and all of the student articles can be read online on the Tartak Learning Center website here: <http://www.huc.edu/tartak/guide/>.

Multi-age Grouping in Religious School: Can it Work? (Missy Bell, LA)
The Bar Mitzvah Phenomenon (Amy Berenson, NY)
Teacher Shortages Should be a Problem of the Past (Leah Blank, NY)
The Forgotten Jewish Communities of Eastern Europe (Olga Bluman, LA)
Tefillah Education: Welcoming the Next Generation of Jewish Pray-ers (Nicole Greninger, LA)
Jewish Family Education as the Personification of L'Dor V'Dor (Eliana Hall, LA)
The Challenge of Teaching Hebrew in America (Jessica Ingram, NY)
The Dilemma of Hebrew in Jewish Education (Matt Kahn, LA)
Resettling the Land: Israel Engagement and Education in the 21st Century (Noam Katz, LA)
Birthright Israel: Expanding our Engagement (Lisa Kingston, NY)
Beyond Bat Mitzvah: Assessing the Unique Needs of Adult Women Learners (Rachel Kort, NY)
Meaningful Hebrew Education Can Lead to a Stronger Jewish Identity (Jordan Magidson, LA)
Bringing Birthright Back: Using the Keys to Jewish Young Adult Identity Formation (Ari Margolis, LA)
Bringing the Magic of Informal Education into the Classroom (Erin Mason, LA)
Creating a Vision for Hebrew Education (Sara Mason, LA)
Beyond "Feed Good" Judaism in Camps: Enriching Jewish Passion with Jewish Content (Dan Medwin, LA)
Integrated Informal Education in a Summer Camp: The First Summer on the Cutting Edge of Informal Education (Lydia Medwin, LA)
Reform Participation in Day Schools (Lev Metz, LA)
The Direction of Special Education in Religious Schools Today (Luisa Moss, LA)
Bar/Bat Mitzvah: A Stop or a Depot on the Train of our Children's Jewish Journeys? (Rena Polonsky, LA)
Is Just Visiting Israel Enough? (Laura Siegel, LA)
Addressing the Topic: Gender in Education (Melissa Simon, NY)
Infusing Reform Zionism and Israel into the Language of Congregations (Melissa Stollman, NY)
The Challenges of Jewish Education in the Israeli Public School System (Chen Ben-Or Tsfofi, NY)
Co-Teaching as a Model for Congregational Schools (Emily Walsh, LA)
A Tale of Two Classes: An Examination of the Place of Hebrew in the Religious School (Micol Zimmerman, LA)

Hebrew Union College-
Jewish Institute of Religion



Tartak Learning Center

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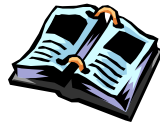
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Save the Dates



Purim Resource Fair
March 11-12, 2008

Behrman House Publishers

*Check your mailbox for an order form for
discounted Behrman House books*

Please submit orders & payment by 3/21/08

Director's Cut

I update our website regularly so that it highlights our latest acquisitions, our newest student-produced materials, and recent campus program materials. Have you looked at the site lately? You'll find:

- Lists of internet links that we distribute at our holiday resource drives
- Handouts from our various lunchtime programs
- Each of these quarterly newsletters, with a sortable index so you can find that teaching tip or book descriptions that you misplaced...
- **New** sortable tables listing all the student-written curricula and curriculum guides, so you can find what meets your needs more easily.

Happy surfing!

Lynn