

TARTAK LEARNING CENTER

RESOURCES RENEWED

מקורות מתחדשים

Volume 6, Issue 4

May 2008

Summer Holidays & Resources

Does your Religious School teaching job run until June? Are you working at camp this summer? You might want to know that:

- Yom HaShoah is May 2
- Yom HaZikaron is May 7
- Yom HaAtzma'ut is May 8
- Lag B'Omer is May 23
- Yom Yerushalayim is June 2
- Erev Shavuot is June 8
- Tisha B'Av is August 10

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.

Reflections of an Intern: What I've learned from four quads in the Tartak Learning Center

When looking for a fun, educational activity to do with a Judaic Studies class, *Apples to Apples* or *Apples to Apples: Junior Edition* is a great idea. It will keep students engaged, give them the opportunity to learn something new, and help you to assess where your students are in terms of their general Judaic knowledge.

Want a story to supplement a sermon, open a program, or to tell at a children's service? There are tons of options available. The Tartak Learning Center has story books located by subject on almost every shelf, and there are also collections like *The Jewish Story Finder* or *Three Times Chai* in which you can find stories organized by subject. "Not having a story to tell" just isn't an option anymore!

No need to lament, "I missed the Tartak Learning Center Resource Drive!" as the next Jewish holiday swiftly approaches! The Resource Drive actually continues all year long, in file folders located right on the shelves. With a little bit of browsing, you can find copies available for you to take, and original documents that you can bring up to the library to copy.

Curriculum Guides are a great place to start when planning a class, looking for an activity, or just coming up with an idea for a lesson. It's as if past students have already done all the work for you! Look in the green binders for great lesson ideas—you can either use them as they are, or adapt them for your own age level or curricular needs! The options are endless!

Looking to create some ambiance? There is more to good education than books! At the Tartak Learning Center you can set up an atmosphere of learning and inquiry by having Jewish music playing softly as students come in (come by to check out a cassette, CD, or even sheet music!), or by having bright, colorful, and interesting posters up on the walls (come by to check out our poster collection! Yes, they are there for you to borrow!)

And those comfy, comfy couches... Looking for a quiet place to study, where you can be silently inspired by all of those educators who came before you? Grab a few pretzels, or maybe a Twizzler, put your feet up, and settle in on the couches at the Tartak Learning Center.

By Sara Mason, Tartak Learning Center Intern

Focus on Israel Resources

- **Israel at 60: A Time to Rejoice... Reflect... Renew**

A program guide for Reform congregations produced by ARZA. This will be the basis of programming for many congregations during the weekend of May 9-11, 2008.



- **One Heart—Two Homes: Israel and the Sacred Identity of American Jews**

This curriculum for adults prepared by ARZA in 2007 explores three questions:

1. WHY, as an American Jew, should I have a relationship with Israel?
2. WHAT might such a relationship look like?
3. WHERE might Israel “live” in my Jewishness?



- **BabagaNewz**

BabagaNewz is a full-color monthly classroom magazine for grades 4-7 that accurately and thoughtfully analyzes major news stories, religious holidays, cultural events and youth trends that play an important part in our children's lives.

This academic year, three supplements to BabagaNewz magazine were published that covered a range of topics relating to Israel's 60th birthday. These supplements, as well as their corresponding lesson plans, are available to borrow in hard copy at the Tartak Learning Center, or they may be downloaded free of charge from

http://www.babaganewz.com/teachers/index_main.cfm?cat=10&sub=israelatsixty

- **RHSOE Student-written Curriculum Guides**

Several RHSOE students prepared curriculum guides about Israel, including:

My Israel: A Non-Traditional Approach to Israel Advocacy by Shaina Wasserman (2006)

The Essence of Israel by Rony Keller (2004)

Portraits of Jerusalem by Deborah Bock Schuldenfrei (2003)

Coming soon: 13 New Curriculum Guides

We are eagerly awaiting the curriculum guides prepared by the RHSOE class of 2008. Our website will have summaries early this summer, when the Guides will be available for borrowing.

Hebrew Union College-
Jewish Institute of Religion



Tartak Learning Center

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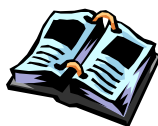
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Thinking Ahead



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 three 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 Sara Mason 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, but she'll remain at HUC as a rabbinical student. Thank you, Sara!

Have a great summer!

— Lynn