



WEEKLY CHECK IN NOTES



Judaics Administrators Check In September 22, 2020

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What it's about: Days of Gratitude 5781 will take the form of monthly, 3-day “Editions”, starting in December. These will lead up to a 7-day finale in the days leading up to Shavuot in May 2021. This means we’ll be able to feature more content and activities: 18 per edition, and 6 per day during the finale. Each monthly edition will be themed around *brachot* (blessings) that will inspire us to notice things that commonly go unnoticed, so that we may seek gratitude in unexpected places.

→ **INVITATION to Judaics heads to submit activities** (10-20 minutes) for kids, parents, families, socially distanced, range of modalities, and submit to M2 about gratitude around a specific theme. Reach out to Joelle: deadline to submit for the first round of activities is Oct. 21

How is it going? What are your plans for the next 2 weeks?

- Annual Sukkot field trip to corn maze is cancelled so they are taking activities form simchat beit hashoeva (like fire dancing) to have instead to re-enact in the parking lot, socially distanced. Makes it very special and unique.
“It was related of Rabban Shimon ben Gamliel that when he was rejoicing with the joy of the Water-Drawing he would take eight burning torches in one hand and toss them upwards; he tossed one and caught one, and never did one touch the other.... (Talmud, Sukkah 53).”
- Annual Sukkot beyachad (used to be a huge community wide event) is now ZOOMechad- record family presentations within their own sukkot, designated roles in advance. Each family will have its own sukkah and share different aspects so each family has a different role. Over dinner. Trying this year.
- CHAZAN DOING A GLOW IN THE DARK VIDEO OF DANCING SO CREATE FEELING OF DANCING WITH TORAHS- USING GLOW IN THE DARK GLOVES FOR THIS
- Each student has his/her own shofar to blow
- Each day of chol hamoed they will have time to sit in the sukkah
- Concern about passing the arba minim from one to other- so use sanitizer before passing and use disposable gloves
- Broke down sukkah into smaller parts so can use for multiple groups

- Using nutella dunks so kids can build own individual sukkot out of food
- Middle school creative contest on laws of sukkot- build to scale based on one halachic phenomenon, kosher sukkah building. The small individual milk containers work very well to depict various mishnayot in succah like the doubledecker, on a donkey etc
- Engaging families- successful with distant Shabat live stream and more media and shlock rock shake the lulav song and have kids dance to that
- Make sure you're taking pictures and using these awesome plans as PR!
- Some schools will be back online for Sukkot
- Allowing families to use school sukkot? Concern about Covid... still brainstorming what that could look like
- Don't forget to leverage this group to do a program with another school- whether it is a game show or a game, maybe invite a grade in another school to a challenge with your school
- Grade level, distanced each class for hakafot outside on soccer field, pre record older students reading Torah for younger students
- for older students- we have invited people who were once experiencing homelessness to present about what it feels like to live in a temporary shelter
- Create a mural in the sukkah- each class gets one area, focusing on Israeli ushpizin maybe
- Learn how to write sefer Torah- reach out to sofrim to do online exhibitions
- Each class makes a video of a different guest ushpizin and then share whole video with whole school to welcome new guest each day
- Great ecology units for arba minim (grow torah has!) <https://www.growtorah.org/>
- Design thinking to solve a problem- ex- elderly neighbor needs a sukkah but has limited space...
- Explore hiddur mitzvah- how to we beautify a mitzvah, do art projects, create a personalized Jewish object box
- Interview the ushpizin on a video show
- Conversations about how to bring chag to your own home when we can not have the chag in shul as much as we used to, empowering students, what have Jews done in the past?
- The mitzvah of being rejoicing as a community- even when we're apart- each class being responsible to bring joy to the community- creating new traditions and ways to celebrate together

What would you like more?

How to improve reading and reading comprehension in Hebrew now?

Different approaches to teaching modern Hebrew- processing that

Scope and sequence on parsha and Tanach curriculum by grade

Brainstorm around chagigat siddur and chagigat Torah with so many changes, how to celebrate them