



The Jewish Education Center Of Cleveland

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Resources for Israel at 60

*Available for local educators at the JECC's Ratner Media & Technology Center, through the Curriculum Department or Teacher Center
Curriculum noted as from the JECC is available also for purchase from the Curriculum Department.*

Beyond Camels and Falafel: New Paradigms for Israel Education, Cleveland, OH: JECC, 2006.
A variety of curricula developed to show new paradigms for Israel education in North America on CD ROM. The curricula include:

- ***Am Yisrael Hai – Mishpahah L'Mishpahah***
This curriculum provides a structure for American and Israeli families with young children (5 & 6 year olds) to learn about each other through Jewish celebrations, heritage, as well as the normalities of daily life. This course was written for the American families; an Israeli educator would need to adapt it to fit an Israeli context. The authors of the curriculum hoped that these families would remain connected for 7-8 years, till the time of Bar/Bat Mitzvah. (For preschool – grade 2).
- ***As Envisaged by the Prophets of Israel***
This semester long Supplementary School course was developed in partnership with a teacher who was not satisfied with her current curriculum. The title comes from student study of the complexity of Israeli life through an examination of a line of Israel's Declaration of Independence: The State of Israel will be based on freedom, justice and peace, as envisaged by the Prophets of Israel. (For grades 7 – 8).
- ***Bibliography of Current Israel Educational Materials***
This comprehensive, though not exhaustive, bibliography focuses on curricular materials, children's literature, selected non-fiction and videos developed in recent years on the topic of Israel. All materials may be borrowed locally from the JECC's RMC.
- ***Israel Education: Thinking Out of the Box***
This article was written when the numbers of American teens going to Israel had dropped precipitously following the start of the "second *Intifada*." The article was written in reaction, partially, to an increase in help coming from Israel to American educators for handling the Israel education issue. (For grades 9 – 12).
- ***IsraelNOW Solidarity Curriculum***
This curriculum was designed in 2002 in response to the issues that Jews (and thus Jewish educators) in North America were having in light of the second *Intifada* that broke out in 2001. (For grades 9 – 12). The curriculum focuses on six big ideas:
 - Israel is a special place for Jews worldwide
 - Just as we stand by a friend in times of trouble, the Jewish community stands by Israel at this difficult time
 - It is important to be "critical consumers" of media, carefully evaluating the veracity and slant of the news about Israel
 - Israel anchors the Jewish people as a spiritual, national, and cultural center
 - To equate the actions of the Israeli army with those of Palestinian suicide bombers and militia, draws a moral equivalency that does not exist
 - There are specific actions we as American Jews can do to support Israel

- **It's Mine! No, it's Mine!! Children of Abraham in Conflict**
This course examines the eternal conflict between Jew and Arab by focusing on the conflicting claims of inheritance that create emotionally charged tensions that have been difficult to resolve. Students compare news articles from different sources, view videos and hear the voices of those on different sides of the conflict, gaining an ability to more skillfully analyze what they hear from the news and participate in conversations about the Middle East conflict. (For grades 9 – 12).
- **Hope of Israel**
(For grades 4 – 6).
Promise of Israel
(For grades 9 – 12).
These two units were developed as an educational “spiral” using the same Enduring Understanding for each grade, five years a part. *The Hope of Israel* (originally developed for Grade Five) uses Israel’s national anthem as its lens on Israeli society. *The Promise of Israel* (originally developed for Grade Ten) explores the promise made by God in the Torah that the Land would belong to the Jews, as well as the commitments of generations of Jews to that promise.

Book, Tuvia. ***For the Sake of Zion: Pride and Strength Through Knowledge, An Educator’s Guide.*** New York: Board of Jewish Education of Greater New York: 2004.

Intended to “provide students with a sense of pride and understanding of modern Zionism and its achievements,” this is a set of teaching units and lists of teacher resources, including videos and websites. (For grades 9 - 12).

Chill, Abigail. ***Teaching About the Middle East: A Resource Teacher’s Guide.*** Culver City, CA: Social Studies Service, 2003.

This eight unit curriculum for middle school and high school students includes a CD-ROM with Power Point presentations on several pertinent topics, plus the text of the curriculum in Adobe Acrobat form. (For grades 7 – 12).

Creating, Developing and Sustaining a Relationship with Israel. A Project of the Reform Jewish Commission on Lifelong Learning. New York: Union for Reform Judaism, 2004.

A set of lessons about the relationship between American teens and Israel, designed to strengthen that relationship and to be used with Confirmation classes. (For grades 9 – 12).

Eyes on Israel. Boston: CAMERA: The Committee for Accuracy in Middle East Reporting in America, 2007.

A curriculum that addresses journalists’ ethics when covering the Middle East conflict. Helps students advocate for balanced and accurate coverage of the Middle East. Lesson plans, student handouts and teachers’ aids and multi-media materials are on a CD ROM in PDF format. (For grades 7 – 12).

Family Focus on Israel. Cleveland, OH: JECC, 2006.

A two page document that may be offered to parents as a way to help them better connect their children to Israel, and to answer some of the hard questions about Israel that may come home from public or private school.

<http://www.jecc.org/Curriculum/FamilyFocus.pdf> (For parents).

Fishman, Deborah. ***Bringing Israel's Soldiers Home: Israel's Captive Soldiers the Mitvot of Pidyon Shevuyim & Tikkun Olam.*** New York: American Zionist Movement and WZO Department for Zionist Activities, 2006.

A program guide for youth groups, day schools and religious schools which teaches students that freeing the captives (*pidyon shevuyim*) is a *mitzvah*. Therefore, it is a moral obligation. It intends to install a sense of responsibility, so that they will take an active role in the effort to return all the missing and abducted Israeli soldiers to their families and their country. (For grades 9 – 12).

IKAR: Israel Knowledge, Advocacy, and Responsibility: A Program for High School Students.

New York: Solomon Schechter High School and the American Jewish Committee, 2003.

There are four parts to this program: an introductory lecture about the importance of American Jewish teens' engagement with Israel, a set of four workshops examining controversial issues, a sample one-month classroom unit, and a DVD with four video segments. (For grades 9 – 12).

Israel: Connecting with our Hearts, Heads and Hands! Cleveland, OH: JECC, 2006.

A response curriculum developed after Israel's war with Lebanon's Hezbollah in the summer of 2006. Offers three ways for Jewish educators to help their students connect to Israel with their hearts (emotionally), with their heads (intellectually) and with their hands (actively). <http://www.jecc.org/Curriculum/Response-Curriculum.htm> (For grades 5 – 12).

Israel, Steve. Connecting To Community: Jewish Peoplehood, Belonging and Commitment.

Jerusalem: Jewish Agency Ministry of Education, 2003.

An experimental edition, intended to raise the awareness of high school students about contemporary Jewry, mutual commitment, and the common destiny of the Jewish people. (For grades 9 – 12).

Stars of David on the Silver Screen: Exploring Passion for Israel through Text. Cleveland, Ohio: JECC, 2000.

This unit focuses on the ways that passion for Israel unifies the Jewish people. After studying some examples of "historical passion," students prepare an Israeli film festival for their congregation or school, using the video resources of the JECC's Ratner Media and Technology Center. (For grades 7 - 12).

Hands-On Materials***Connecting to the People of Israel: Partnerships in Israel.*** Cleveland, OH: JECC.

This unit explores one articulation of the relationship between Cleveland and the State of Israel: the Federation's PACT (Parents and Children Together) Program. Using photographs and artifacts, students explore the goals of PACT and its impact on the Ethiopian-Israeli community. The Curriculum Department has "suitcases" to loan local schools with all the artifacts and materials needed for this unit. (For grades 4 – 8).

Connecting to the People of Israel: Partnerships in Israel. Cleveland, OH: JECC.

This unit for older students focuses on Jewish Federation of Cleveland's key partnership projects in Israel: PACT; our Partnership 2000 Community of Beit Shean; the Haavat Hashover army base; and ISHA, the women's health initiative. In small groups, students unpack suitcases and explore the ways that both Cleveland and Israel benefit from this work. The Curriculum Department has "suitcases" to loan local schools with all the artifacts and materials needed for this unit. (For grades 7 – 9).

Exploring Passion for Israel Through Text. Cleveland, OH: JECC.

This activity is designed to encourage the learner to explore "Passion for Israel" through short essays, prayers, passages, and poems. Students analyze texts for an Israel focus – Land, State, or People. (For grades 9 – adult).

Hands-On Jerusalem. Cleveland, OH: JECC, 1995.

Originally developed for Jerusalem 3000, this ten-station set of learning centers helps youngsters get a feel for life in Jerusalem three thousand years ago . . . give or take a thousand years! Half the centers focus on religious life and half on daily life. It comes with a set-up guide and explanations for teachers and/or parent volunteers. May be borrowed from the Curriculum Department. (For grades 2 - 5).

Israel: Birth of a Nation Learning Center. Cleveland, OH: JECC, 1997.

Originally developed for the Israel at 50 celebrations, these ten learning centers focus on Israel at the time of its birth. Bright and colorful, they draw middle school students into the lifestyles and decisions of people living in Palestine/Israel and Cleveland at the time Israeli statehood was declared. High level thinking is emphasized. Teacher guide included. May be borrowed from the Curriculum Department (For grades 7-9).

Textbooks and Instructional Aids

Benkof, David. ***Disengagement.*** Los Angeles: Torah Aura, 2006.

An "instant lesson" that explores the issues involved in Israel's disengagement from Gaza. Both pro and con arguments are discussed. (For grades 7 – 12).

Benkof, David. ***The Matsav.*** Los Angeles: Torah Aura, 2006.

The Matsav (situation) is a set of four lessons about current issues relevant to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. Disengagement, the *matzav* itself, the Palestinians, and the peace agenda are the subjects. (For grades 7 – 12).

Benkof, David. ***The Peace Agenda.*** Los Angeles: Torah Aura, 2006.

An "instant lesson" that explores the issues that remain to be resolved before a lasting peace between Israel and the Palestinians can be achieved. A teacher's guide is included. (For grades 7 – 12).

Bianco, David. ***The History of Israel Series.*** LA: Torah Aura, 1998.

The following instant lessons are available. (For grades 3 – 8).

- Five Decades of Israel's History.
- The Five *Aliyot*.
- Golda Meir.
- Henrietta Szold.
- The *Kibbutz*.
- Rav Kook.
- Six Day War.
- Theodore Herzl.
- The West Bank.

Bickerton, Ian J. and Paula L. Klausner. ***A Concise History of the Arab-Israeli Conflict, Updated Fourth Edition.*** Upper Saddle River, NJ, Pearson/Prentice Hall, 2005.

A college level textbook useful for teachers' background information. Also appropriate for advanced high school students.

Blumenthal, Scott E. ***The Great Israel Scavenger Hunt.*** Springfield, NJ: Behrman House, 2003.

A young child visits his cousin in Israel and is sent on a scavenger hunt throughout the country. Information about Israeli cities and important places, the diversity of the Israeli people, their social life and customs, Hebrew vocabulary, and the land's biblical ties is imparted with cartoon-like illustrations, photographs, maps, and eye-catching details. A teacher guide is available. (For grades 3 – 6).

Boaz, John, Editor. ***The Israeli-Palestinian Conflict. At Issue/Opposing Viewpoints.*** Farmington Hills, MI: Greenhaven/Gale, 2005.

A collection of articles on the source of the conflict, the role of the United States, and the security fence, among other issues, representing different points of view. (For grades 8 – 12).

Burstein, Chaya. ***Our Land of Israel***. UAHC, 1995.

An exploration of *Eretz Yisrael* through the eyes of some of the diverse people who live there. Games, puzzles, and numerous illustrations are appealing; the text is now over a decade old. (For grades 3 - 6)

The Current Situation in Israel: From Matzah to Matzav. New York: CAJE, 2002.

A publication that addresses the following questions: What we, as American Jews, can do to support Israel? What are the roots of the Arab-Israeli conflict? What moral dilemmas do Israelis face in the current conflict? (For grades 7 – 12)

Feder, Chaim. ***Israel Journeys. Dreams, Dilemmas and Decisions of Israeli Leaders***. Jerusalem: Joint Authority for Jewish Zionist Education, 1997.

Written for the fiftieth anniversary of Israel, this resource traces the early development and growth of the State of Israel. It provides biographies of key Israeli figures and describes the issues and dilemmas that they faced. (For grades 7 – 12).

Goulden, S. ***Medinatenu***, 2nd Ed. The Israel History Book. United Synagogue Jewish Agency for Education, 2002.

A textbook written in Britain for middle school aged students describing the history and geography of the State of Israel. It contains over 20 maps and 40 pictures. (For grades 6 – 9).

Passport to Israel. Los Angeles: Torah Aura, 2004.

Eight "instant lessons" that describe, through photographs, different regions of Israel. A teacher's guide is available. (For grades 3 – 5).

Rivlin, Lilly et al. ***Welcome to Israel***. Springfield, NJ: Behrman House, 2000.

Israeli kids take readers on a tour of Israel from Tiberias to Eilat and teach about Israel's history, geography, politics, and culture. The day-to-day lives of the Israeli kids are shown as well. The text contains critical thinking, map-reading activities that teach Israel's geography, key Hebrew words with English translation, and discussions of Jewish values. Full-color photos, maps, and whimsical illustrations make the excitement of Israel come alive.

Schneider, Kyla Epstein. ***Places in Israel***. Los Angeles: Torah Aura, 2005.

This sticker Instant Lesson introduces eight places in Israel: Haifa, Jerusalem, Tel Aviv, the Kinneret, Eilat, the Dead Sea, the Negev, and a *kibbutz*. (For grades kindergarten – 2).

Sela, Pazia. ***Israel: Yom Hazikaron and Yom Ha'Atzmaut***. Jerusalem: Jewish Agency for Israel, 2007.

A Hebrew resource and reader that offers Hebrew language students thematic reading material that reinforces their connection with Israel, as well as descriptions of ceremonies with music for *Yom Hazikaron* and *Yom Ha'Atzmaut*. Each of the six main chapters begins with a brief introduction for the teacher in Hebrew, English, Spanish and French. The book is presented in vocalized Hebrew with *k'tiv maleh*, for ease of reading and comprehension. Chapter seven offers work assignments. (For grades 7 – 12).

Towvim, Naomi. ***The Israel Connection: One People, Many Faces, Gr. 4-5***.

Boston: Bureau of Jewish Education/JESNA, 1997.

The unit presents how the State of Israel brings together Jews from many different ethnic backgrounds, but at the same time share many common values and practices. An enrichment booklet, a student's guide and a teacher's guide are available.

Towvim, Naomi. ***The Israel Connection: a People Builds its Land, Gr. 6-7***. Boston: Bureau of Jewish Education/JESNA, 1996.

This unit was designed to engage sixth or seventh graders in a one semester encounter with the building of a Jewish national homeland in the land of Israel. A student source book and a teacher's guide are available.

Towvim, Naomi. ***The Israel Connection: Are We One? Gr. 10: Issues in Israel - Diaspora Relations.*** Boston: Bureau of Jewish Education/JESNA, 1993.

The general purposes of this unit are to stimulate students to think about the role Israel plays in their lives, to explore their relationships with Israel as members of the Jewish people, and to consider how these relationships might manifest themselves in the expression of their Jewishness. A student source book and teacher's guide are available.

Non-Fiction Books

Advocating for Israel: An Activist's Guide. New York: ADL, 2002.

Provides strategies to advocate on behalf of Israel to the media elected officials and on campus. Includes a section on how to respond to inaccuracies, as well as basic facts about Israel. (For grades 9 – adult).

Bard, Mitchell, Ed. ***At Issue in History: The Founding of the State of Israel. Opposing Viewpoints Series.*** Farmington Hills, MI: Greenhaven/Gale, 2003.

A selection of essays supporting and opposing the founding of Israel. Important documents are included. (For grades 10 – adult).

Bard, Mitchell. ***The Complete Idiot's Guide to the Middle East Conflict,*** Third Edition. New York: Alpha/Penguin, 2005.

Traces the origins of Judaism, Christianity, and Islam as well as the wars between the people of the Middle East from biblical times to the present. Focusing on the Arab-Israeli conflict, the book ends with a chapter that brings the conflict up to the present, including the information on deaths of Yitzhak Rabin, King Hussein, and Yasser Arafat, and the dispute about Jerusalem and the territories. (For grades 10 – adult).

Bard, Mitchell, Ed. ***Myths and Facts: A Guide to the Arab-Israeli Conflict.*** Chevy Chase, MD: American-Israeli Cooperative Enterprise, 2002.

A compilation of articles that attempt to debunk the distortions and falsehoods perpetrated by Israel's enemies about the Israeli – Palestinian conflict. It is constantly updated on the Internet, at www.jewishvirtuallibrary.org. A shorter, pocket-sized version aimed at helping college students counter anti-Israeli attacks on campus is called ***On One Foot***, written by Bard and published by BE, Inc., in 2002. (For grades 10 – adult).

Bard, Mitchell. ***1001 Facts Everyone Should Know about Israel.*** Lanham, MD: Rowman and Littlefield, 2005.

Topics include Zionism, religion, war and peace, the United Nations, and notable quotations, all about Israel. Most of the facts are just a few sentences long, making this a very concise guide. (For grades 10 – adult).

Boraas, Tracey. ***Israel. Countries and Cultures Series.*** Mankato, MN: Bridgestone/Capstone, 2002.

Factual and objective, this short book is divided into chapters beginning with a historical overview and continuing with information about the land, climate and wildlife, history and government, economy, people, culture, and daily life. Each chapter starts with a boxed set of "fast facts" pertinent to its subject such as Israel's latitude and longitude, area, highest and lowest elevations. Clearly drawn maps and text boxes plus photographs and other illustrations add visual interest and additional information. Appended material consists of pictures of the Israeli flag, a timeline, glossary, very brief bibliography, addresses, websites, and an index. (For grades 3 – 6).

Claybourne, Anne. ***Golda Meir. Leading Lives Series.*** Chicago, IL: Heineman Library, 2003.

A short biography covering Golda Meir's life from birth to death, illustrated with many photographs. (For grades 4 – 8).

Corona, Laurel. ***Israel. Modern Nations of the World.*** San Diego, CA: Lucent Books, 2003.
A balanced overview of Israel, covering daily life, political issues, arts, culture, and much more. Includes sidebar stories on *ulpanim*, Yad Vashem, the Mufti of Jerusalem, Hebrew Book Week, the Ethiopian airlift and others. (For grades 6 – 11).

Crompton, Samuel Willard. ***Ariel Sharon. Modern World Leaders.*** New York: Chelsea House, 2007.
A biography about the controversial Israeli prime minister. (For grades 7 – 12).

Davis, Helen. ***Israel in the World: Changing Lives through Innovation.*** London: Weidenfeld and Nicolson, 2005.
An overview of Israeli society and its technical developments in medicine, science and technology, agriculture, and outreach. Illustrated with many color photographs. (For grades 5 – 12).

Diament, Carol, Editor. ***Zionism: The Sequel.*** New York: Hadassah, 1998.
A collection of essays written since the establishment of the State of Israel in 1948, divided into two parts: Israel-Diaspora Debates and Clash of Ideologies. Each section begins with a thought-provoking essay by a noted scholar. There is also a Leader's Guide. (For adults and teacher reference).

Frank, Mitch. ***Understanding the Holy Land: Answering Questions about the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict.*** New York: Viking, 2005.
A fast-paced, yet thorough, set of answers to various questions about the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, written as objectively as it is possible to be about this highly polarized issue. (For grades 10 – adult).

Garfinkel, Adam. ***Israel. Modern Middle East Nations and Their Place in the World Series.*** Philadelphia: Mason Crest, 2004.
This is an authoritative account of Israel from its beginning to the modern state. The land, people, and history are introduced and the emphasis is on Israel's place in the world today, with issues of security and conflict at the forefront. Maps, photographs, a glossary, an index, a list of websites and books for further reading accompany the text. (For grades 7 – 12).

Goldstein, Margaret. ***Israel In Pictures, Revised Edition. Visual Geography Series.*** Minneapolis, MN: Lerner, 2004.
Keyed to Lerner's *Visual Geography Series* website, www.vgsbooks.com, which substantially expands the information in the book, this is geared to the informational needs of elementary and middle school students. Extensively revised from the previous edition published in 1987. (For grades 5 – 8).

Greenfeld, Howard. ***A Promise Fulfilled: Theodor Herzl, Chaim Weizmann, David Ben-Gurion, and The Creation of the State of Israel.*** New York: HarperCollins/ Greenwillow, 2005.
A succinct and well-written history of modern Zionism, told through the biographies of three of its most important figures. The backgrounds, influences, achievements, strengths, and weaknesses of each man are skillfully woven into the historical chronicle. The section on Herzl is particularly strong in portraying the contradictions in his personality that contributed to the Zionist cause. (For grades 7 – 12).

Grossman, Laurie M. ***Children of Israel. The Worlds' Children.*** Minneapolis, MN: Lerner, 2001.
Photographs and text portray the lives of children from several of Israel's ethnic and religious groups. (For grades 2 – 6).

Hampton, Wilborn. ***War in the Middle East: A Reporter's Story***. Cambridge, MA: Candlewick Press, 2007.

In a firsthand, "you are there" account, the author chronicles his experiences as a UPI correspondent covering the 1970 Black September conflict in Jordan and the 1973 Yom Kippur War. Black and white news photos accompany the text. (For grades 7 – 12).

Hoffman, Lawrence A. ***Israel, a Spiritual Travel Guide: A Companion for the Modern Jewish Pilgrim***. Woodstock, VT: Jewish Lights, 1998.

Blessings, prayers, biblical references, and medieval poetry are a part of this guide, intended to spiritually prepare the visitor to Israel. For all of Israel's major tourist sites, there is a four step focus of advance reading, study on the way to the site, spiritual orientation to the site, and journal writing to record personal thoughts and impressions.

The Israel Project's Guide to Proven Pro-Israel Communications. Arlington, VA: The Israel Project, 2005.

A guide, based on market research, about how to present a pro-Israel position to the media and in speaking to groups about the Arab-Israeli conflict. The advice is to keep the message positive and to emphasize the common values between the U.S. and Israel, rather than historical facts. (For adults).

Kort, Michael G. ***The Handbook of the Middle East. Rev. Ed.*** Brookfield, CT: 21st Century/Millbrook, 2008.

This excellent and timely book contains factual information about the history, geography, government, politics, economics, people, and cultures of 16 countries. Maps, flags, and chronology included. (For grades 10 – adult).

Luntz, Frank I. ***America 2020: How the Next Generation Views Israel***. New York: The Israel Project, 2007.

A report based on interviews with 150 randomly selected students under age thirty attending the top graduate schools in America. The key conclusion is: "Never in the modern history of the Jewish State has there been more outspoken public opposition on ELITE college campuses to the basis principles and tenets of Israel. To be brutally frank, if the current attitudes are not reversed, America's core commitment to - and alliance with - Israel may not survive." (For adults).

Miller, Jennifer. ***Inheriting the Holy Land: an American's Search for Hope in the Middle East***. New York: Ballantine, 2005.

A young woman from a prominent family uses her connections to travel throughout Israel, interviewing important political personages in the region as well as young people from the Seeds for Peace program, and ruminates on the chances for peace. (For grades 10 – adult).

Ojeda, Auriana, Ed. ***The Middle East. Current Controversies Series***. Farmington Hills, MI: Gale/Greenhaven, 2003.

Twenty eight essay providing pros and cons on topics such as Islamic terrorism, the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, and pan-Arabism. Contributors include Daniel Pipes, Edward Said, and Yasser Arafat. (For grades 10 – adult).

Rifa'i, Amal and Odelia Ausbinder with Sylke Tempel. ***We Just Want to Live Here: a Palestinian Teenager, an Israeli Teenager – an Unlikely Friendship***. New York, St. Martin's Griffin, 2003.

Tempel is a German journalist who facilitated this exchange of letters between two teenagers living in Jerusalem. Although they share hopes for peace and happy futures, their worldviews and circumstances are quite different. The Palestinian girl speaks the "party line" and was not allowed by her family to use her real name, for fear of reprisals. The Israeli girl is outspoken in her criticism of the Sharon government and aspects of Israeli society. As voices from opposing sides of the intractable conflict, they present a balanced view of it. Excellent for discussion. (For grades 7 – 12).

Schroeter, Daniel J. ***Israel: An Illustrated History***. NY: Oxford University Press, 1998.

The first section traces the ancient Israelites from the eleventh century BCE to the rise of Islam in the seventh century CE. The second chapter picks up the account of Palestine for the next 1,300 years, a time of Muslim rule. Other chapters explore the rise of Zionism and the persistent conflicts between Jews and Arabs over the land, as well as the British influence in the area. The final chapters cover the declaration of the modern state of Israel in 1948, and the crises and achievements of the nation during its first 50 years. There are sidebars of information about the Mossad, Israel's internal security service; the immigration of Ethiopian Jews; and the Zionist philanthropy of Baron Edmond de Rothschild. (For grades 8 – 12).

Silver-Brody, Vivienne. ***Documenters of the Dream: Pioneer Jewish Photographers in the Land of Israel, 1890-1933***. Jerusalem: Magnes Press of Hebrew University, 1998.

This book is a magnificent and historically important collection of photographs, with commentary, depicting nineteenth-century photography in the Holy Land. It also includes the history of Jewish photography in Israel. (For grades 10 - adult).

Sofer, Barbara. ***Keeping Israel Safe: Serving in the Israel Defense Forces***. Minneapolis, MN: Kar-Ben, 2008. Journalist

Barbara Sofer introduces us to four young people who are learning about their options and choosing how they will serve. This book chronicles the history of Israel's army from its pioneer days through the founding of the State, and shows how advanced technology and intelligence systems have led to the creation of one of the most admired armies in the world. (For grades 5 – 12).

Sonneborn, Liz. ***Murder at the 1972 Olympics in Munich***. New York: Rosen, 2003.

Sonneborn gives us an informative and highly readable account of the murder of eleven Israeli athletes at the 1972 Olympics by a group of Palestinian terrorists. This is an episode in history little-known by today's youth, but the author does a good job of providing context for the event. A glossary, a pathfinder for more information, a source bibliography and suggested reading list, and an index extend the book's reach. (For grades 7 – 12).

Speregen, Devra N. ***Ilan Ramon, Jewish Star***. Philadelphia: Jewish Publication Society, 2004.

A biography with photographs that focuses on Ilan Ramon's years of training as an astronaut and on life aboard a space shuttle. (For grades 5 – 8).

Stavicek, Louise Chipley. ***Israel. Creation of the Modern Middle East Series***. New York: Chelsea House, 2003.

An account of the birth and growth of modern Israel, with good research aids. Most books about Israel published by Chelsea House are not recommended because of their anti-Israeli bias. (For grades 7 – 12).

Stone, Tanya Lee. ***Ilan Ramon: Israel's First Astronaut***. Brookfield, CT: Millbrook Press, 2003.

A readable and poignant biography, integrating information about Ilan Ramon's life and career with facts about astronauts and space shuttles. Although brief, Stone's book imparts a sense of Ramon's appealing personality, his leadership qualities, and his status as an Israeli hero. Illustrated with photographs. (For grades 3 – 8).

Strutin, Michal. ***Discovering Natural Israel***. Middle Village, NY: Jonathan David, 2001.

Color photographs and readable text weave together ancient history and lore with modern adventure, showing Israel's incredible natural diversity and how the land has changed over the centuries. (For grades 7 – adult).

Webster, Matt. ***Inside Israel's Mossad: The Institute for Intelligence and Special Tasks***. *Inside the World's Most Famous Intelligence Agencies Series*. New York: Rosen, 2003.

This book is a brief but informative account of the *Mossad*, Israel's formidable foreign intelligence agency initiated by Ben-Gurion in 1951. As the author explains, for the tiny Jewish state of Israel, beset by numerous external enemies, a superior intelligence agency was essential. This overview is an account describing the organization's structure and goals and some of the successes and the failures of the highly trained operatives. Included are photographs, an index, bibliography, and a glossary. (For grades 7 – 12).

Wolfman, Marv. ***Homeland***. Skokie, IL: Nachshon Press, 2007.

Depicting the history of Israel from biblical Abraham to the present, this is a sophisticated, four-color graphic adaptation. History, religion, politics, and the current Middle East situation are all given comprehensive coverage in the text, which opens in a university setting with a professor teaching a series of sessions on Middle East/Near East modern history, beginning with Israel. (For grades 9 - 12).

Woodward, John, editor. ***Israel: Opposing Viewpoints***. Farmington Hill, MI:

Gale/Greenhaven, 2005.

A collection of pro and con articles about Israel and the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. (For grades 7 – 12).

Fiction Books

Abraham, Michelle Shapiro. ***My Cousin Tamar Lives in Israel***. New York: URJ Press, 2007.

A young boy compares and contrasts how he celebrates the Jewish holidays in America to how his cousin Tamar celebrates in Israel. Colorful illustrations. (For grades preschool – grade 2).

Allard, Denise. ***Postcards from Israel***. Austin, TX: Raintree Steck Vaughn, 1997.

A collection of fictional postcards, written as if by young visitors to Israel to their friends, describes various sights and life in the Jewish state. This simple introduction through postcards is appealing and might provide the basis for some writing by students. (For grades 1 – 4).

Allon, Hagit and Lena Zehavi. ***The Mystery of the Dead Sea Scrolls***. Philadelphia: Jewish Publication Society, 2004.

Illustrated by Yossi Abulafia. Told as a mystery story, this fascinating and smartly illustrated book provides interesting information about the Dead Sea Scrolls, the Judean desert where they were found, the Shrine of the Book where they are housed in Jerusalem, and a glimpse at the everyday life of a modern Israeli family. (For grades 3 – 8).

Banks, Lynne Reid. ***One More River, Rev. Ed.*** Morrow, 1992.

A spoiled Canadian teenager is forced by her parents to join them on a kibbutz when they make *aliyah*. The outbreak of the Six Day War magnifies her unhappiness at the move. The story ends happily as Lesley embraces her new country.

Banks, Lynne Reid. ***Broken Bridge***. Morrow, 1993.

This novel is a sequel to ***One More River***. A terrorist attack in Jerusalem profoundly changes the lives of two teenagers and their families.

Carmi, Giora. ***And Shira Imagined***. Philadelphia: JPS, 1988.

A little girl's travels around Israel with her family inspire imaginative adventures with her toys. Sites in Israel are pictured in black and white while Shira's fantasies are portrayed in large vividly colored illustrations. The book is 20 years old, but still appropriate (For grades kindergarten – 3).

Da Costa, Deborah. ***Snow in Jerusalem***. Morton Grove, IL: Albert Whitman & Company, 2001.
On a rare day of snow in Jerusalem, a Jewish boy and an Arab boy set aside their differences to help a white cat and her kittens. (For grades kindergarten – 3).

Dietrick, Ellen. ***It's Israel's Birthday!*** Minneapolis, MN: Kar-Ben, 2008.
This delightful introduction to Israel and *Yom Ha'atzmaut* for young children features photographs of a preschool class taking an imaginary trip to Israel and touring the country is featured. (For preschool – kindergarten).

Edwards, Michelle. ***Chicken Man***. Lothrop, Lee & Shepard Books, 1991.
This is a humorous picture book set in an early *kibbutz*. Rody, the Chicken Man, loves his chickens and they love him. Because of the necessity of rotating jobs on the *kibbutz*, he must take on other responsibilities. He embraces each new task with enthusiasm. Each of his jobs, therefore, always looks good to others and causes envy among his friends. Eventually the *kibbutzniks* realize that it is Rody who makes a job seem like fun. This story portrays a historic period in Israel. (For grades kindergarten – 4).

Elkeles, Simone. ***How to Ruin a Summer Vacation***. Farmington Hills, MI: Flux, 2006.
Amy, a teenager, is dragged to Israel for a summer by her estranged father. There, she meets a family she didn't know existed and who didn't know she existed, either. Amy is transformed from a self-centered girl to a loving and caring young woman because of her experience. Life in modern Israel is presented positively, with emphasis on love of country, responsibility, and Israeli determination. (For grades 7 – 12).

Groner, Judy. ***Let's Visit Israel*** Minneapolis, MN: Kar-Ben/Lerner, 2004.
Illustrated by Cheryl Nathan. A simple board book that introduces some of the major sites in Israel to preschoolers. Jerusalem, a *kibbutz*, Masada, the Dead Sea, and Eilat are some of the places visited by a little boy who serves as a guide. (For preschool and kindergarten students).

Grossman, David. ***Duel***. Translated from the Hebrew by Betsy Rosenberg. New York: Bloomsbury Children's Books, 2004.
Loyalty, love, and honor are the themes of this multi-layered mystery and coming-of-age story. The friendship between twelve year old David, a clever and introspective Israeli boy, and some elderly German-Jewish residents of a Jerusalem retirement home is the catalyst for a story that weaves between the past and the present. (For grades 4 – 8).

Kaplan, Kathy Walden. ***The Dog of Knots***. Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdman's, 2004.
An absorbing and off-beat story set in Haifa around the time of the Yom Kippur War. A nine year old girl and an old, stray dog are the main characters, exemplifying the fortitude that is part of everyday life in Israel. (For grades 3 – 8).

Kass, Pnina Moed. ***Real Time***. New York: Clarion, 2004.
Set in Israel, this teenage novel is told in many voices: a German boy on his way to work on a *kibbutz*; a Russian immigrant girl reclaiming her Jewish heritage; an elderly Holocaust survivor; an aspiring Palestinian "martyr" and his family; emergency medical staff, doctors, nurses, and the police. Their lives all intersect in one violent moment, revealing the reality of a suicide bombing from many different perspectives. Winner of a Sydney Taylor Book Award and excellent for discussion. An audio CD is available that contains an interview and readings by the author. (For grades 9 – adult).

Leshem-Pelly, Miri. ***Lon-Lon's Big Night: Halaila Hagadol Shel Lon-Lon***. Denver, CO: Milk and Honey Press, 2006.
Lon-Lon, a little sand fox, was born in the Negev. He lived with his family inside an underground burrow. The first night he was allowed outside by himself to play, he found himself alone in the middle of the desert, far from his home and family. English and Hebrew text. Winner of the Nachum Gutman Award for illustrations. (For grades kindergarten – 4).

Manushkin, Fran. ***Come Let Us Be Joyful!: The Story of Hava Nagila***. New York: UAHC Press, 2000.

A wonderful story about a young boy, Moshe Nathanson, who crafted the words to the '*Hava Negila*' melody. The illustrator, Rosalind Charney Kaye, used different media to illustrate Ancient Israel. (For grades kindergarten – 4).

Miklowitz, Gloria. ***The Enemy Has a Face***. Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 2003.

A suspense novel set in Los Angeles; this involves the disappearance of the teenage son of an Israeli family. Issues regarding relationships between Jews and Arabs are interwoven with a fast paced plot, teenaged characters, and contemporary references. (For grades 5 – 8).

Morgan, Anna. ***Daughters of the Ark***. Toronto: Second Story, 2005.

An adventure story about two girls, separated in time by thousands of years, who are forced to leave their homes on perilous journeys to unknown lands. In 939 B.C.E., Aleesha and her family are sent by caravan from Jerusalem to the court of the Queen of Sheba in Ethiopia. Almost three thousand years later, a Beta Israel girl flees religious persecution and famine to return to Israel, her ancestral home. (For grades 4 – 8).

Podwal, Mark. ***Jerusalem Sky: Stars, Crosses, and Crescents***. New York: Doubleday, 2005.

A lyrically written, beautifully illustrated celebration of the sky above Jerusalem and its sacredness to Jews, Christians, and Muslims. The tone is of conciliation and hope. (For grades 3 – 6).

Roseman, Kenneth. ***Jeremiah's Promise: an Adventure in Modern Israel. Do-It-Yourself Jewish Adventure Series***. New York: UAHC Press, 2002.

A teenage Holocaust survivor is convinced by an Israeli secret agent to immigrate to Palestine. His travels through Israel tell the story of the Jewish state as readers make choices regarding career, family, residence and identity as a Jew. (For grades 5 – 8).

Rouss, Sylvia. ***Sammy Spider's First Trip to Israel***. Minneapolis, MN: Kar-Ben/Lerner, 2002.

Sammy uses his five senses to experience Israel. The illustrations, by Katherine Janus Kahn, are charming and by traveling around the country with Sammy and the Shapiro family, young children get a wonderful introduction to Israel in all its variety. (For preschool – grade 2).

Rouss, Sylvia. ***Tali's Jerusalem Scrapbook***. New York: Pitspogany, 2003.

Tali is a little girl who lives in Jerusalem. When her American relatives decide not to make their annual visit because of "the situation," Tali reflects on life in Jerusalem. The mementoes and photographs in her scrapbook remind her of what she loves about her city, about how Arabs and Jews used to be able to live together like different flavors of ice cream, and about her hopes for peace. A touching story that captures an Israeli child's feelings. (For grades 3 – 6).

Sandell, Lisa Ann. ***The Weight of the Sky***. New York: Viking, 2006.

Written in free verse that reads like prose, this sensitive growing up story is told by Sarah, who spends the summer of her sixteenth year working as a volunteer on a *kibbutz*. Independent for the first time in her life, Sarah gains confidence in herself and the ability to make her own choices. Living as a Jew among Jews, including young people close to her own age, she is transformed by her Israel experiences. The vibrancy of life in contemporary Israel is shown, with only a few references to the Palestinian conflict. (For grades 7 – 12).

Schur, Maxine Rose. ***When I Left My Village***. Dial Books for Young Readers, 1996.

To Menelik and his family who are trying to escape persecution in Ethiopia, Israel seems as far away as Paradise. A moving and informative story that won a Sydney Taylor Award. (For grades 2 – 5).

Stein, Tammar. ***Light Years***. New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 2005.

A young Israeli woman studying in the United States narrates the story of why she left Israel. Alternating chapters portray Maya's college experiences in Virginia and her life in Israel as a soldier whose life is shattered when her boyfriend is killed in a suicide bombing. Written with sensitivity and insight. (For grades 10 – adult).

Steiner, Connie Colker. ***On Eagle's Wings and Other Things***. Philadelphia: JPS, 1987.
An inspiring story about children from Yemen, Tunisia, the United States and Poland, representative of *olim* from all over the world, who leave their homes to make *aliyah* to Israel.
(For grades 1 – 4).

Wiesel, Elie, ***Dawn, new edition***. Hill and Wang, 2006.
This short novel explores moral dilemmas at the dawn of modern Israel. The main character is a young man working for the Jewish resistance in pre-State Palestine who is assigned to assassinate a British soldier. (For grades 10 – adult).

Films

Note: *Israeli films should be previewed before class screening as they are unrated and may contain strong language or inappropriate subject matter.*

...And if I Forget Thee: Did Herzl Really Say That? Israel: Shula Spiegel Productions, 2006, DVD, 50 minutes, Hebrew with English subtitles.

A documentary with two Israelis, Oren and Yanay, who meet with several young Jerusalemites (secular, ultra-Orthodox, and Arab) in order to try and discover whether there is hope of a revival for Jerusalem, a city fraught with crises of poverty, neglect and outright abandonment. For want of an opportunity, night life, friends, and most importantly religious and cultural tolerance, Oren and Yanay left the city they love for Tel Aviv. They examine whether Jerusalem is really withering, and whether there is hope that young people, like themselves, will ever return. (For grades 9 – adult).

As if Nothing Happened. National Center for Jewish Film, 2006, DVD, 60 minutes, color, Hebrew with English subtitles. Directed by Ayelet Bargur.

A powerful drama of an Israeli family in crisis. Like most Israelis on weekend leave, Lt. Ziv Gonen is returning to his army base. His father drops him off near the Beit Lid bus stop where he is to catch a ride back to base. Minutes later, a terrorist bomb explodes at the bus stop killing eighteen people and wounding 62; most are soldiers. The fears and anxiety of Gonen's family are palpable in this drama. (For grades 9 – adult).

Battle for Survival: The Arab Israeli Six Day War. Thousand Oaks, CA: Goldhil Videos, 199, 60 minutes, B&W.

This historic film was created for Canadian television shortly after the Six Day War. Their film crew was the only one allowed behind the lines. They captured fascinating images of soldiers fighting enemies on all sides and present a documentary of rare balance and insight. (For grades 7 – adult).

Beautiful Music. Moriah Films/Simon Wiesenthal Center, 2005, DVD, 38 minutes.

Beautiful Music follows the relationship between an Orthodox Jewish woman and a blind, autistic Palestinian girl. In 1978, Devorah, an American-born pianist living on the outskirts of Jerusalem, began teaching 9 year-old Rasha, an abandoned, blind and severely autistic Palestinian girl from Bethlehem who was taken in by Dutch-Christian missionaries. For 18 years, through two *Intifadas* and the ups and downs of the peace process, Devorah has been giving piano lessons to Rasha, who is not only able to perform complicated musical pieces, but also to create original music. This is a heartfelt true story of overcoming barriers, both physical and geographic. (For grades 6 - adult).

Bet She'an , Our Sister City. Israel, The Jewish Community Federation of Cleveland, 2006, DVD, 16 minutes.

An introduction to Cleveland's sister city, Bet She'an that shows everyday life in the city. Also, provides a history of the city's founding. Jessica Bram of Suburban Temple-Kol Ami, Cleveland, made this film for her twelfth grade "senior project." (For grades 3 – adult).

Broken Wings. Israel: Sony, 2002, DVD. Hebrew with English subtitles, 84 minutes.

The effects on a family caused by the death of their father and husband are examined in the light of Israeli society today. (For grades 9 – adult).

Campfire. Israel Film Movement, 2005, DVD, color, 96 minutes, Hebrew with English subtitles.

The year is 1981, Rachel Gerlik, a 42 year-old widowed mother of two teenage daughters, wants to join the founding group of a new settlement in the West Bank. While trying to meet the strict guidelines of the acceptance committee, she is forced to face the realities of her life including the molesting of her younger daughter by a member of her youth group. Issues of love, community and family are all tied together in this award winning film. (For mature high school classes – adult).

The Children's House. Israel, n.d., DVD, 60 minutes, color.

A documentary about the *kibbutz* movement and its philosophy of separating children from their parents. The format for the examination of this philosophy is the building of an art exhibit replicating the "children's house" where the artists had spent their childhood. This film is a revelation of the issues felt by those who lived in the children's houses. (For grades 7 – adult).

Compilation 11. Ergo, 2002, DVD, 93 minutes, film from the Ma'ale School.

Four films about observant Jews living in modern Israel. Included are: **Eicha** (21 min.) Eicha is a young religious girl who decides to change her name upon reaching eighteen. **Newspaper & Flowers** (26 min.) Carmel is searching for love, not easy for a religious young woman. Will she compromise her religious principles to win "a little love?" **Hallel** (22 min.) a religious married woman meets a bookshop owner and discovers a new world of books, poetry and friendship. Set against the backdrop unsuccessful fertility treatments. **Evacuation Order** (16 min.) When a couple of soldiers are sent to a little mountain in the West Bank to evacuate a young woman, the unexpected happens. (For grades 9 – adult).

Confrontation at Concordia, Canada: Seventh Art Releasing, 2003, VHS, color, 47 minutes.

On September 9, 2002, at Montreal's Concordia University student union, activists staged a violent protest to stop former Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu from addressing the Jewish student movement, Hillel. The resulting riot ended in a cancellation of the event. Throughout the months that followed, the student union demonstrated strong post 9/11 anti-American sentiment and further, banned Hillel on campus, provoking angry outcries of anti-Semitism. This film examines intolerance and violent activism in a microcosm of North American society - a university campus. Fueling this confrontation is the contentious issue of the long standing conflict in the Middle East between Israelis and Palestinians. (For grades 9 – adult).

Dreamers and Builders. Jerusalem, National Center for Jewish Film, 1999, 60 minutes, B & W.

The early builders of the Zionist vision, pioneers of the Third Aliyah and Fourth Aliyah of the 1920's, have been captured on film for time in memoriam by the father of Hebrew film, Ya'akov Ben Dov. Based on three films: **Return to Zion, Rebirth of a New Palestine,** and **Romance of Palestine.** The films were considered lost for more than 70 years and have recently been rediscovered and preserved jointly by the Israel Film Archive, Jerusalem Cinematheque and the National Center for Jewish Film. It features people who later became household names: an infant Moshe Dayan; Henrietta Szold, rare footage of Chief Rabbi Avraham haCohen Kook and Yaakov Meir presiding over a wedding. It reminds one of the idealism that built Israel in providing a flavor of what it must have been like to be in the embryonic state of Israel in the 1920's. (For grades 7 – adult).

Encounter Point. JustVision, 2007, DVD, 85 minutes, subtitles: English, Arabic, Hebrew, French and Portuguese.

A documentary that follows a former Israeli settler, a Palestinian ex-prisoner, a bereaved Israeli mother and a wounded Palestinian bereaved brother who risk their lives and public standing to promote a nonviolent end to the conflict. The film explores what drives them and thousands of other like-minded civilians to overcome anger and grief to work for peaceful solutions. (For grades 10 – adult).

Exodus 1947. Waltham, MA, National Center for Jewish Films, 1996, 60 minutes, B&W and color. Narrated by Morley Safer, Exodus 1947 is the true story of how American Jews secretly financed and crewed Exodus 1947, the most infamous of the Aliyah Bet ships that tried to run the British blockade of Palestine. Recently declassified documents, eyewitness accounts and scholars reveal how American ships, crews and financiers played a vital role in undermining British control of Palestine - even though such involvement was contrary to U.S. government policy. In the summer of 1947, the aging Chesapeake Bay steamer was crewed with an odd assortment of Jewish-American former GIs. It took on a cargo of 4,500 Holocaust survivors and steamed for Palestine. After a bloody battle with the British, the immigrants were sent back to D.P. camps in Germany. The newsreel and print media seized on Exodus 1947 as a symbol of Jewish struggle and the aborted voyage galvanized international support for the creation of a Jewish homeland in Palestine. (For grades 7 – adult).

Families of Israel. Master Communication, 2001, VHS, 30 minutes, color. This live-action video follows two Israeli children and their families through an ordinary day. Inbar lives on a *kibbutz* and Yoad lives in Jerusalem. (For grades 1-3).

The First Israeli in Space: The Story of Colonel Ilan Ramon, Israel's First Astronaut. Israel Broadcasting Authority, 2003, DVD, 70 minutes, color, English and Hebrew. The remarkable story of Colonel Ilan Ramon, his training and preparation, for the space launch that ultimately took his life. (For grades 5 – adult).

A Hero in Heaven: Michael Levin. Philadelphia: Sally Mitlas Film Productions, 2007, DVD, 45 minutes.

An inspiring documentary about Michael Levin, an American born boy, who in 2003 fulfilled his dream of making *aliyah* and serving in the IDF as a paratrooper. In the summer of 2006, during his 30-day leave to visit his family in the United States, Michael voluntarily returned to duty to fight in Lebanon against the Hezbollah. He was the first American-Israeli to be killed by a Hezbollah sniper. Michael is remembered as a hero. The story is presented through the music of Naomi Shemer, the poetry of Rachel and of Shaul Tchernokovsky, as well as the memories of Michael by his friends, family and fellow soldiers. A study guide is included. (For grades 9 – adult).

Home Game. Israel: Achrayut Media, 2007. DVD, 82 minutes, Hebrew with English subtitles. The 2005 Gush Katif summer basketball tournament took place at the same time as the implementation of the disengagement of Israel from Gaza. This is the story of the plan through the eyes of the Gush Katif youth who filmed the footage. The film contrasts the youths' determination to win a basketball tournament, with their struggle between feelings of hope in their efforts to save their homes and feelings of despair in the realization that they might not succeed. (For grades 9 – adult).

Israel: Birth of a nation. History Channel, 1997, DVD, 100 minutes. Narrated by Sir Martin Gilbert this tells the story of Israel's independence and early years. Extraordinary footage filmed by Bernard Beecham, a British soldier. (For grades 9 – adult).

Israel Up Close. Israel Up Close.

In a news magazine format these DVDs and CD ROMs show aspects of Israeli culture. Also available online are other segments. (For grades 7 – adult).

- **Vol. 1** n.d. DVD, 30 minutes.
American football in Israel, a congregation of black Hebrews in Dimona, a rock band, a *Yom Hazikaron* ceremony, and other slices of Israeli life.
- **Vol. 3** n.d. CD ROM, 10 minutes.
An Israeli women's flag football team, an invention to increase the mobility of wheelchair users, and a high-tech college in Jerusalem where many Ethiopian Jews study.
- **Vol. 5** n.d. CD ROM, 11 minutes.

Disabled Israeli army volunteers, a resort in the Golan Heights, and the Bauhaus architecture of Tel Aviv.

- **Vol. 7.** 2007. DVD, 18 minutes.
The Anti-Semitism Conference in Belgium, American *aliyah* to Israel and Israeli rock musicians.
- **Vol.9.** n.d. CD ROM, 11 minutes.
The Boombamela Spring Festival; an environmental studies, a program with Jews and Arabs; and the unique Jewish community in Finland.
- **Vol. 11.** 2007. DVD, 12 minutes.
The Moshav Modiin music festival, the revival of the *Kibbutz* movement and Israeli scientists who resurrected a sapling of the Judean date palm found on Masada.
- **Vol. 13.** 2007. DVD, 12 minutes.
The Menahem Begin Heritage Center, tourism in the Old City Jerusalem and baseball in Israel.
- **Vol. 14.** 2007. DVD, 12 minutes.
The International Council of Jewish Parliamentarians, innovative Holocaust studies and musician David Broza and the musical group Mayumana Rhythm Troupe play together and tour.

Israel: You Have It All. StarComm Pictures, 1995, VHS, 32 minutes.

An introductory tour of Israel in a children's milieu. Roni and Shira are two American youngsters visiting Israel for the first time with their parents. Exhausted by a whirlwind "adult" itinerary, the children are suddenly confronted by Simcha, a Jewish Peter Pan whose motto is "simcha poretz geder," i.e., a sense of joy that breaks all time and space boundaries. This enables Simcha to transport the kids to panoply of sights, sounds and time periods in Israel. (For grades kindergarten - 6).

Kotel: Jewish Teens on Gender and Tradition. Camden, NJ: Rutgers University, 2003, VHS, 28 minutes.

Written and directed by Stuart Z. Charme. Explores the issue of prayer at the Western Wall in Jerusalem with 19 Jewish-American teenagers, in light of Jewish gender roles, the importance of tradition, and the conflict between forms of modern Judaism. A facilitator's guide, **Investigating Israel: Facilitator's Guide: Creating, Developing and Sustaining a Relationship**, with eight lessons, is available. (For grades 9 – 12).

May 14, 1948. Jewish Agency for Israel.

This original on-location documentary portrays the first day of the state of Israel's existence, in which the whole country served as the front line and all its inhabitants were considered its army. Using David Ben Gurion's reading the Proclamation of the State as a backdrop, the viewer is treated to footage of pre and post 1948 Israel. Excellent primary source material that captures the feeling of the times. (For grades 7 – adult).

Mechina: a Preparation. Maital Guttman, 2005, DVD.

A documentary in which 18 year old Maital goes to Israel to discover what it's like to be eighteen in Israel, preparing for army service instead of college. Living with her cousin Amitai and his friends as they prepare for army service, she uncovers the complexity of being young and idealistic in a time of war. (For grades 9 – adult).

Munich. Universal City, CA: Universal Studios Home Entertainment, 2006, DVD, 2 hrs and 44 minutes, English and French.

A controversial film directed by Steven Spielberg about Israeli secret agents who hunt down the suspected Palestinian killers of eleven Israeli athletes at the 1972 Munich Olympics. The focus of the film is on the Israelis' angst and personal torments. The film is a docudrama; not all of the events and places are accurate. (For grades 9 – adult).

My Land Zion. New York, Women Make Movies, 2004, DVD, 57 minutes.

A personal documentary in which the director, Yulie Cohen Gostel, questions her own decision to return and raise her family in war-torn Israel, while challenging the myths of Zionism. As she wonders about the future that awaits her daughters in a country embroiled in continuous war, she stretches a connecting thread from the murder of Jews in the Holocaust to the War of Independence, to the rise in settlements and the condition of Palestinian refugees in Israel today. She grapples with the most explosive of questions - what is the price of freedom, and at whose expense? (For grades 9 – adult).

Promises. The Promise Film Project, 2001, DVD, 102 minutes.

An intensely personal and insightful documentary that examines the Palestinian-Israeli conflict from the vantage point of seven children living in Jerusalem. While the children live just 20 minutes apart, they exist in completely separate worlds, divided by physical, historical and emotional boundaries. (For grades 7 - 12).

Raid on Entebbe. Thorn Emi Video, 1977, DVD.

The story of the hijacking of an Air France plane by terrorists who force it to land in Entebbe, Uganda. A few days later, after it becomes clear that the Jewish hostages will not be released, an Israeli commando force lands at the airport and rescues them. Available in English or Hebrew with English subtitles. (For grades 9 – adult).

Reach for the Sky. Jerusalem: Ruth Driskin, 2001, DVD, 52 minutes, Hebrew with English subtitles.

A documentary about the intensely competitive selection process for pilots in the Israeli Air Force. (For grades 7 – 12).

Relentless: The Struggle for Peace in Israel. HonestReporting, 2003, DVD, 60 minutes.

An important documentary that examines the events in the Middle East and the ongoing struggle. The film highlights the Oslo Accord. (For grades 9 – adult).

Sallah. Israeli Video Center, 1964, DVD, 110 min., B&W.

One of the most famous of all Israeli films. Tells the story of an immigrant family from North Africa and the problems of adjustment to their new home. They are sent to a transit camp to wait for a permanent home to be given them by the government. Satirical comedy. Teacher guide available. (For grades 9 – 12).

Threads of Progress. San Francisco, CA: BlueStar, 2006, DVD, 15 minutes.

A documentary about two Israeli women who created a center where Bedouin women can come to either work or bring home material to be embroidered and later sold. This is one of the first instances that Bedouin women have been allowed out of their homes to work. They embroider everything from jeans, handbags, shoes, pillows, whatever can be sold. Efforts to alleviate the poverty and social restrictions these women face lead to an uplifting story of progress and hope. (For grades 9 – adult).

Time of Favor. Kino, 2002, DVD, 101 minutes, color, Hebrew with English subtitles.

Winner of six Israeli Academy Awards, this is a complex story of a soldier, a controversial West Bank settlement rabbi and the rabbi's daughter. It raises issues of religious faith and duty to one's nation. (For grades 9 – adult).

The Transparent Kippa. Did Herzl Really Say That? Israel: Shula Spiegel Productions, 2006, DVD, 50 minutes, Hebrew with English subtitles.

Herzl envisioned an old-new state and planned every detail. Among other things, he spoke of what a religious leadership should do, how Jews and Arabs should get along, and voiced opinions about Jerusalem. Oren Harman and Yanay Ofran embark upon a personal journey to the heart of contemporary "Israeliness." This documentary explores the phenomenon of a growing number of Israelis who do not feel at home with observant Jews or the secular majority. Too worldly to lead a fully religious life, but too spiritually-minded to remain wholly secular, the people in this film revisit a dichotomy that has defined Jewish society in Israel for many years. (For grades 9 – adult).

Walk on Water. Sony, 2005, DVD, 103 minutes, Hebrew with English subtitles.

This enthralling, award-winning film explores the motives, strengths, and ultimately the humanity of an Israeli hit man who is on a mission to find ex-Nazi officer Alfred Himmelman. During this quest, he unexpectedly befriends Himmelman's grandchildren. (For grades 9 – adult).

We are One: Cleveland and the Birth of Israel. Cinecraft Productions, 1997. color and B&W, 33 minutes.

A documentary created for the 50th anniversary that chronicles the history of events leading to the proclamation of a Jewish state in connection with the Cleveland Jewish community's supportive role in this effort. The program comes to life through the impassioned oratory of Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver defending Israel's cause at the U.N. Also, interview vignettes with Clevelander's Harold Isaacs, S.Lee Kohrman, Rena Blumberg and Henry Zucker convey a vivid sense of their (or their parents) personal involvement in the drama of building a State. Skip to the described segments and use as a springboard for comparing the nature and importance of local individual involvement in Israel's destiny then and now. (For grades 9 – adult).

The West Bank Story. Ari Sandel, 2005, DVD, 22 minutes.

A musical comedy set in the fast-paced, fast-food world of competing Israeli and Arab falafel stands in the West Bank. David, an Israeli soldier, falls in love with the beautiful Palestinian cashier, Fatima, despite the animosity between their families' dueling restaurants. A funny take-off of West Side Story. (For grades 9 – adult).

The Wonder of Israel. Kidsnet, 1997, 20 minutes, color, with poster and teacher guide.

Road runner orientation of Israel that covers many subjects: geography, landscapes, climate, cities, political Zionism, culture, school, economy, government and peace process- seemingly a mile a minute. Clipped narration, stunning videography and pulsating music add to the rapid paced albeit surface quality of this production. Includes a poster-sized map and guide. (For grades 6 – adult).

CD ROM

Discover Jerusalem, its History and People: A Virtual Narrated Tour of the Old City. TES.

This CD about Jerusalem is not interactive. It features scenes of the city with a voice-over narration of its history.

GA 2004 Visual Resources. Jerusalem: State of Israel Ministry of Foreign Affairs, n.d.

Contains sections on technology, business development, Israeli aid to other nations, Jerusalem, and a pictorial overview of Israel. Some sections have audio, others do not.

Israel: Small Country, Big Ideas. The Library Project of Stand With Us: www.learnisrael.org, 2005.

This PowerPoint presentation effectively highlights Israel's many achievements in science and technology. It can be used in conjunction with the book ***Israel in the World*** by Helen Davis. It also stands by itself as an informative and positive way of explaining to teens and adult audiences modern Israel's contributions to the world. Stand With Us and learnisrael.org are organizations that advocate for Israel and distribute positive materials about Israel to libraries. (For grades 8 – 12).

Israeli Pictures. Galtech, 1998.

Features colorful photographs of Israeli flowers; landscapes including: desert, forests, beaches, mountains; different regions; some diverse people and foods at the Israeli markets.

Maps and charts of Israel. Jerusalem, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, 2003.

A collection of many maps and charts relating to both historic and modern Israel, in PDF format.

Rubinger, David. ***Portrait of Israel.*** JEMM Productions, 1998.

Photographs of Israel's founders by ***Time-Life*** photographer David Rubinger.

Virtual Old Jerusalem. TES, .n.d.

Includes Hot Shot technology plus Zoom to create your own printable photo essay.

Magazines and JournalsThe Avi Chai Foundation. ***Babaganewz.***

A monthly classroom magazine that accurately and thoughtfully analyzes major news stories, religious holidays, cultural events and youth trends that play an important part in Jewish children's lives. This year (2007-2008) the magazine will publish a three-part supplement for Israel at 60 **Dreamers, Builders and Defenders: 1900 – 1948** which contains the history of Israel. (For grades 5 – 12).

The Jerusalem Post. ***Dash.***

An Israeli magazine for English speaking young people around the world. It describes music, sports, culture, science and technology that originate in Israel. Includes interviews with young Israelis in high school and in the army. (For grades 9 – adult).

The Jerusalem Post. ***The Jerusalem Report.***

A news magazine that covers current events in Israel, the Middle East and the Jewish world. (For grades 10 – adults).

Jewish Family and Life Media (JFL). ***JVibe.***

A bi-monthly publication for today's Jewish teens. Includes what the current trends are in Israel, celebrity interviews, the latest in music, movies and sports, and conversations with teens. (For grades 9 – 12).

SongbooksAvni, Fran. ed. ***Israel World Beat – Eretz.***

A mixture of Middle Eastern, Latin and Anglo pop styles onto popular Hebrew lyrics. The songs include "Eretz Zavat Chalav" and "Vayiven Uziyahu" two Israeli folk songs with a world beat twist. (For grades 9 – adult).

Jerusalem: the Eternal City. Isra-Tov Publications, 1985.

A treasury of 32 songs about Jerusalem which contains the Hebrew text, the English translation, phonetic transliteration and music notes. (For grades 7 – adult).

Neumann, Richard. ed. ***Israel Sings.*** Cedarhurst, NY: Tara Publications, n.d.

The songs in this collection can be used in Jewish schools and homes throughout the year in correlation with curriculum, holiday celebrations or family events. These songs reflect various stages in the development in Israel and its struggle for survival and consolidation. (For all ages).

Pasternak, Velvel. ed. ***Favorite Songs of Israel.*** Cedarhurst, NY: Tara Publications, 1985.

A musical overview of the people of Israel which includes songs from before and after statehood: *Sephardic*, *Ladino* and *Asian*; *Z'mirot*, dances; *Hasidic* songs. Lyrics are in Hebrew with transliteration and English translation. (For grades 10 – adult).

Pasternak, Velvel. ***The International Jewish Songbook.*** Cedarhurst, NY: Tara Publications, 1994.

Contains Israeli, *Sephardic* & *Asian*, *Chassidic* & Liturgical song sections as well as English and Jewish holiday sections. (For grades 10 – adult).

Pasternak, Velvel. ***Jerusalem in Song***. Cedarhurst, NY: Tara Publications, 1995.
Folksongs and new compositions subdivided into four categories: secular, liturgical, songs with piano accompaniment and choral arrangements. (For grades 9 – adult).

Project Manginot: Guidelines for Music Education. New York: UAHC, 1992.

Lesson plans and learning activities for supplementary and day school music programs. The guide contains Israel sections for each age group, providing ideas on how to introduce Israel to students through music. The songbook *Manginot* is a collection of 201 songs that accompanies the guide. (For preschool – grade 6).

To Sing Hebrew. Jerusalem: Joint Authority for Jewish Zionist Education, 1997.

Adapted from the book for the Ohio Educators' Israel Seminar. Includes music and Hebrew text. (For grades 7 – adult).

Websites

Committee for Accuracy in Middle East Reporting in America. ***CAMERA***. 2007, www.camera.org

A media-monitoring, research and membership organization devoted to promoting accurate and balanced coverage of Israel and the Middle East. CAMERA fosters rigorous reporting, while educating news consumers about Middle East issues and the role of the media. Because public opinion ultimately shapes public policy, distorted news coverage that misleads the public can be detrimental to sound policymaking.

The David Project: Center for Jewish Leadership. <http://www.davidproject.org/>

The David Project promotes a fair and honest understanding of the Arab-Israeli conflict to counter the assault on Israel on campuses, high schools and in the general community.

Eye 2 Israel. ORT Israel. <http://www.israel1.org/>

This site features articles that help Israeli teenagers share with the world their experiences of growing up in Israel. The students offer their thoughts on everything from the Arab-Israeli conflict and co-existence to their favorite foods and music.

Eye on Israel. Israel Ministry of Tourism. www.eyeonisrael.com.

An interactive map of Israel.

A Focus Beyond the Conflict. Israel 21C.org. 2005, <http://www.israel21c.org>

The website of an organization that works with existing institutions and the media to inform Americans about 21st century Israel, its people, its institutions and its contributions to global society.

Galim. <http://www.galim.org.il/>

A Hebrew website geared towards children that would be great for use with day school students.

IBA Daily News. 2007, ***Jewish TV Network***. <http://www.jewishtvnetwork.com/>

Updated daily news for the Israeli Broadcasting Authority.

Institute for the Study of Modern Israel of Emory University. Teaching Aids.

<http://www.ismi.emory.edu/TeachingAids.html>

This site is part of the ISMI department at Emory University which promotes teaching, research and learning that focuses on Israeli culture, foreign policy, history, society, and politics. The "Teaching Aids" section includes websites, newsletters and primary source materials.

The Israeli Government's Official Website. 2008, Israel Ministry of Foreign Affairs. www.mfa.gov.il. A government website which contains the Ministry of Foreign Affairs newsletter, current events and facts about Israel. Check here for official up-to-date maps.

Israel Maps. *Perry-Casteneda Library Map Collection*

. 2007, ***University of Texas Library Online.*** <http://www.lib.utexas.edu/maps/israel.html>

Contains full country maps in PDF formats that outline the territories, and more detailed maps which focus on the Golan Heights, Jerusalem and the West Bank.

Israel Online. The Lookstein Center for Jewish Education in the Diaspora.

http://www.lookstein.org/resources/israel_online.htm

An annotated collection of educational resources about Israel divided into the categories: Advocacy, *Aliya*, Economics and Industry, Hebrew Language and Literature, Curriculum and Instructional Materials, Geography and Maps, Government and Politics, History, News and Media and Post-Secondary Study.

The Israel Project. 2007, www.theisraelproject.org.

An international non-profit organization devoted to educating the press and the public about Israel while promoting security, freedom and peace. Provides journalists, leaders and opinion-makers accurate information about Israel.

Israel Science and Technology Directory. 2008, <http://www.science.co.il>

This site was created by the former Science advisor for Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu. It is a national database and directory of science and technology related sites in Israel. The site also includes sections on Jewish scientists and students in the Diaspora and an in-depth section of maps.

Israel Videos on YouTube. 2008, Jacob Richman. <http://jr.co.il/videos/israel-videos.htm>

Short videos that show technological and scientific innovations by Israelis. There are also videos about Israeli culture and the Israel Defense Forces. The videos must be previewed due to some explicit content.

Jerusalem Online. 2006. <http://www.jerusalemonline.com/>

A video news update from Israel in English.

The Jerusalem Website. 2008. www.jerusalem.muni.il

A timeline of Israel and facts in English and Hebrew.

Jewish and Israeli Facebook Groups. <http://www.jr.co.il/hotsites/facebook.htm>

NOTE: The JECC does not endorse the ideas or opinions posted on *Facebook*. Yet, teens use it to communicate feelings and experiences about Israel.

The Middle East Media Research Institute. ***MEMRI.*** 2003, www.memri.org.

Explores the Middle East through the region's media. MEMRI bridges the language gap that exists between the West and the Middle East, providing timely translations of Arabic, Persian, and Turkish media, as well as original analysis of political, ideological, intellectual, social, cultural, and religious trends in the Middle East.

Jewish Virtual Library. 2007, The American-Israeli Cooperative Enterprise.

<http://www.jewishvirtuallibrary.org/jsource/israel.html>

A virtual library of resources for Israel.

The Knesset: the Israeli Parliament. The State of Israel, 2007. <http://www.knesset.gov.il/index.html>

The Israeli government website is in Hebrew, English and Russian. It contains information about the *Knesset's* electoral process, laws and the legislative branches and the members.

Welcome to Israel. 2006, Embassy of Israel. http://www.israeemb.org/kids/home_page.html

"Srulik," a popular Israeli cartoon character, takes kids on a virtual tour of Israel. He teaches about national languages, currency, geography, and food.

Zionism & Israel Center. <http://www.zionism-israel.com/index.html>

An advocacy website for Israel which includes maps, a timeline, and biographies of famous Zionist leaders such as: Hannah Senesh, Theodor Herzl and Benjamin Netanyahu.

Israel at 60 Websites

AJC Video Competition. American Jewish Committee (AJC). <http://my.israel.org/contest/>

The American Jewish Committee contest for Israel's 60th anniversary.

Celebrate Israel at Sixty with Bagaganewz.com. Online Teacher's Guide. **Babaganewz.** 2007, The Avi Chai Foundation.

<http://www.babaganewz.com/teachers/archive/index.cfm?cat=15&sub=tevetshevat5768>

The first of three supplements with lesson plans for Israel at 60.

Israel at 60. CAJE-Miami. 2007, Center for the Advancement of Jewish Education-Miami.

<http://www.israel60miami.org/>

This is a great collection of resources including: curriculum, web resources, and official Israel government websites.

Israel at 60. Jewish Agency for Israel. Jewish Zionist Education. 2007,

<http://www.60israel.org/JewishAgency/English/Jewish+Education/Focus+Areas/60Israel>

An interactive webpage of lesson plans, activities, etc.

Shemithah. Jewish Zionist Education. **Jewish Agency for Israel,** 2008,

<http://www.60israel.org/JewishAgency/English/Jewish+Education/Focus+Areas/60Israel/Shemithah+content>

A curriculum around the conceptual linkage between the Jewish cycle of *Shemithah* and Israel's 60 years of Independence, addressing issues of: our relationships with our fellow men and women, *Eretz Yisrael*, social justice - both in Israel and around the world. The series concludes with a focus on family life and related Jewish values. It includes teacher's materials and is available in both English and Hebrew, including complete textual translations, and is intended for use in formal, informal, and community settings.

Israel at 60. United Jewish Communities. 2007, <http://www.ujc.org/page.html?ArticleID=162303>

A compendium of resources and links to strengthen a sense of Jewish people hood, engage community members and advocate for Israel. The links are continuously updated.

Israel Celebrates 60. 2007, UpstartIdeas. <http://www.israelcelebrates60.com/>

Includes background, articles and videos.

The Jewish Reconnection Project. Video Vantage Point. **Jvibe.**

<http://www.jvibe.com/taxonomy/term/503>

A web video series that showcases dialogues between groups a group of young adults Jews in New York and Jerusalem. The goal of the series is to highlight the diverse perspectives among the global Jewish community.

YouTube.

http://www.youtube.com/results?search=related&search_query=%20Gush%20Katif%20settlers%20Gaza%20Judaism%20Disengagement%20Ariel%20Sharon%20Unity%20Israel%20Jews&v=Gl-LmSNmOEo

Videos about disengagement of the Israeli settlers in occupied territories.