



The Jewish Education Center of Cleveland's

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A monthly resource newsletter

Vol. IV No. 8

August 20, 1998

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TIPS AND TIMESAVERS

Editor's Note: This issue of *ùãâçä éôã* (*Dapei Haḥodesh* - The Monthly Pages) focuses on tips and time-savers to make your year run smoothly. The Curriculum Resources Department welcomes your visits to the Ratner Media & Technology Center and Teacher Center to examine these recommendations and browse through our extensive collections.

In addition, the Curriculum Resources Department is pleased to introduce three new staff members:

Linda Silver, JECC Librarian

Marcie Rogozen, Teacher Center Co-Director (with Rivkah Dahan)

Suri Dessler, Teacher Center Assistant

Please introduce yourself when you next are in the JECC.

Feel free to e-mail, fax, call or visit with your teaching successes and resource suggestions. We will do our best to include them in upcoming issues.

L'shalom,

Elissa Bortz - Editor

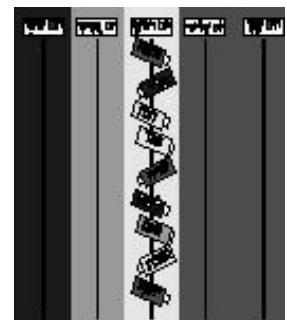


BRIGHT IDEAS FROM THE TEACHER CENTER, By Rivkah Dahan

Attendance Chart for Preschool and Kindergarten

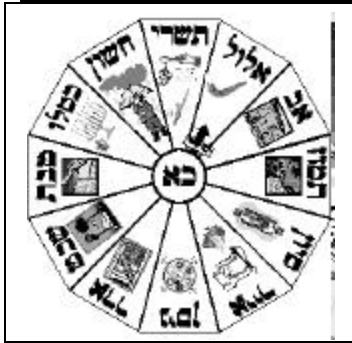
Here is a way to speed up the attendance process and reinforce basic concepts. To use this time-saving attendance system, have each child attach a name clip to the ribbon on the appropriate day. You will know at a glance which students are at school for that day.

Construction : Cut out five, 5.5x22" strips of posterboard (red, orange, yellow, green, blue). Lay strips side by side on a flat surface and tape each strip together using packaging tape. Place the Hebrew days of the week at the top of each strip (Hebrew and English days of the week are available in color at the Teacher Center). After laminating, attach a wide ribbon down from the top of each day. Cut a class supply of 4"x1" posterboard strips. Label each strip with a different child's name. Create name clips by hot-gluing each of the name strips to a separate clothespin. Store the name strips near the display.



Adapted from Back To School: Preschool/Kdg., The Education Center, Inc., 1997. Idea submitted to Mailbox Magazine by: Jennifer Folger-Grades K-3, Special Education, Pickett Elementary School, Toledo, OH

Colorful Calendar Wheel (Grades 1-3)



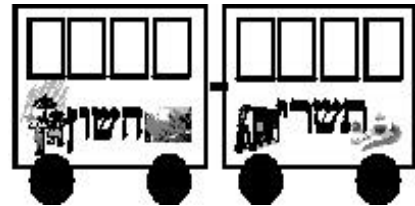
Here's a new twist on a month of the year chart for your opening routine. You can even teach a song about this chart.

Construction: Cut out a color printed calendar wheel and special circle/arrow pointer (available at the Teacher Center) and mount on posterboard. Prepare strips and circles with the Hebrew months and days of week. Attach a piece of velcro to the center of the calendar wheel, to the arrow/circle pointer, and to each day of the week and month strip/circle. Each day, a student attaches the correct day of the week and month to the circle/arrow pointer.

Calendar/Birthday Train (Grades 1-3)

Help students remember their Hebrew birthday with our Jewish Months of the Year Birthday Train.

Construction: Print out each month's train car from the color printer in the Teacher Center. Cut each car so it can be mounted individually on a half piece of colored construction paper. Using the Ellison Die Cut Machine, cut out 24, 1-inch black circles for wheels. Glue to bottom of each car. Laminate cars. Have each child bring in a photo of him/herself to place each photo in the "window" of the train car that corresponds to his or her Hebrew birthday month.



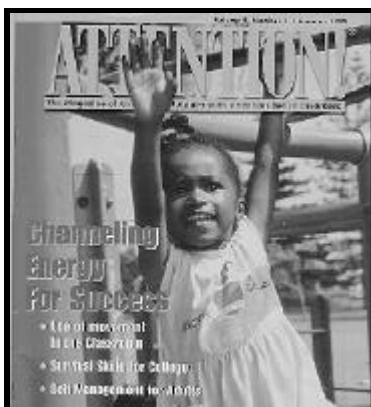
Designed by Rivkah Dahan, Teacher Center Director, Jewish Education Center of Cleveland, 1998



SPECIAL EDUCATION NOTES, By Ellen Fishman

ATTENTION!: The Magazine of Children and Adults with Attention Deficit Disorders: Volume 5, Number 1, Summer 1998.

ATTENTION! is published quarterly. For a subscription, contact C.H.A.D.D., 499 NW 70th Avenue, Suite 101, Plantation, Florida 33317, (954)-587-3700. In addition, you may call Ellen Fishman to access the magazine at the JECC at 216-371-0446.



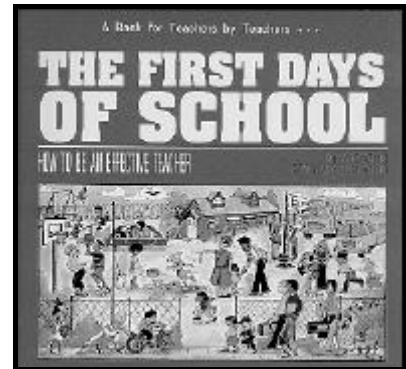
"ADD in the Elementary School: Channel That Energy," Ann Welch. *Attention!* Volume 5, Number 1, pages 27-30.

With the first day of school around the corner, it is time to think about the kinds of students that will be in the classroom. This article provides some easy to implement tips that are helpful to the whole class while benefiting the student with an attention disorder. The author suggests a number of helpful hints that include color-coding at school and home, establishing rules and routines, and advice on the instructional environment. This three page article is full of teacher-friendly ideas to consider for the start of the new school year.

CURRICULUM CORNER, By Nachama Skolnik Moskowitz

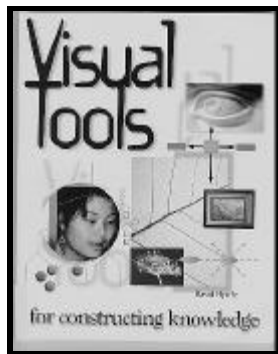
The First Days of School: How to Be an Effective Teacher, by Harry K. Wong and Rosemary Tripi Wong (Sunnyvale, CA: Harry K Wong Publications, 1991).

Anecdotes, stories, quotations, easy-to-understand-and-apply research statistics, lists, photos and a great writing style make this an accessible book for teachers in their first five years in the classroom. The focus is clearly on the teacher: positive expectations, classroom management, lesson development and implementation, and the rewards of professionalism. What makes this book so helpful is the practical advice. This includes what to wear, the importance of greeting students by name on the first day, seating assignment tips, the problems with most grade record books, teaching new students classroom procedures, ways for students to signal you without creating an interruption to learning, and methods of encouraging student cooperation. This is truly an exciting and helpful addition to the library of any new (and maybe even not-so-new) teacher.



Visual Tools for Constructing Knowledge, by David Hyerle (Alexandria, VA: ASCD, 1996).

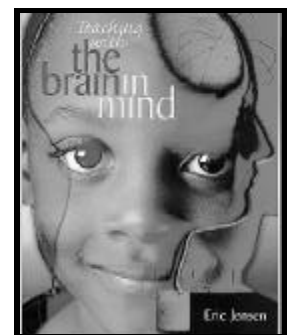
Teachers who empower students to think critically, to recognize new patterns, and to make new connections sometimes find their students floundering with the information they are trying to organize.



David Hyerle provides a large range of “visual tools” that can help students work with the information they are learning. Some of the tools are quite simple (like the one that enables students to visualize a story’s rising action, climax & ending - page 31). Others are more complex, such as the “Thinking Maps” described in chapter 6. The ideas in this book will also support students who need a visual approach to their learning.

Teaching with the Brain in Mind, by Eric Jensen, (Alexandria, VA: ASCD, 1998).

The brain and its learning capabilities have taken center stage in the general education world. This book provides the latest research, presented in an easy to understand format, on "brain-compatible learning" -- the fit between learning and the brain's natural physiology. Jensen creates connections between scientific information and specific implications for classroom practice. Most interesting are the diagrams of the brain and graphic interpretations of principles of learning. Included is a useful glossary of vocabulary related to the brain. This book is recommended for teachers who would like to teach in a way that takes advantage of the brain's capacity for learning.





TECHNOLOGY BYTES, By Maury Greenberg



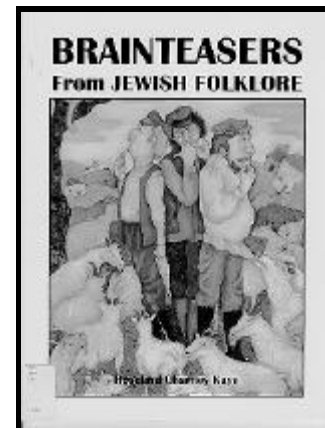
The JECC's new website (<http://www.jecc.org>) will be a real timesaver for novice and experienced teachers. Browse through and download lesson plans from our extensive curriculum collection. Check out the best print and video holdings in the Ratner Media & Technology Center. Search for visual teaching aids in the Teacher Center. Sign up for JESP courses on-line. The site will be updated frequently and open 24 hours a day to service you. Please write to our webmaster with comments and suggestions. We are looking forward to receiving feedback as we work to better meet the needs of the education community.



LITERARY LINKS, By Linda Silver

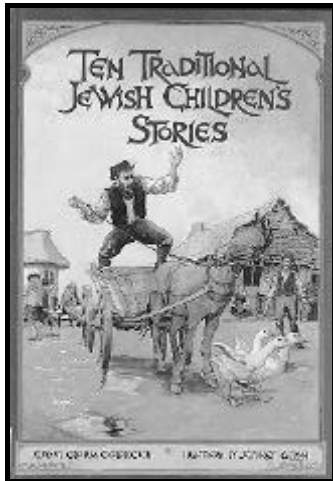
Brainteasers from Jewish Folklore, by Rosalind Charney Kaye (Rockville, Maryland: Kar-Ben Copies, 1997).

Every teacher needs a small repertoire of short stories to capture children's attention at odd moments of the school day. These distillations of Jewish folktales run from a few lines to no more than a few paragraphs in length. Each is illustrated on the facing page with a large, colorful picture. The twist is that the stories are retold as riddles or puzzlers, with the audience supplying the punch line or solution given at the bottom of the page. Populating these brainteasers are caliphs, inquisitors, Kings David and Solomon, the Czar of Russia, the Emperor Napoleon, rabbis, wise men, and simpletons. Children from second through fourth grade will find them challenging and fun.



The Ratner Media & Technology Center (RMC) is open Monday through Thursday 8:30 - 5:00; Friday 8:30- 4:30. Both the Teacher Center and the RMC are open Tuesday nights from 6:30 - 9:00 pm. We are happy to meet with you and preview new material, videos and software. School directors might consider meeting with new staff members at the JECC to introduce additional resources for the coming year.

Ten Traditional Jewish Children's Stories, retold by Gloria Goldreich and illustrated by Jeffrey Allon. (New York: Pitspopany Press, 1996).



Selections from the great tradition of Jewish storytelling are included in this slim, vividly illustrated collection. Classic storytellers like Rabbi Nachman of Bratslav and I. L. Peretz are represented along with classic characters like the wise men of Chelm, the Golem, and Hershel of Ostropol. These short versions, each about a page and a half long may serve as a child's introduction to the precious legacy of Jewish traditional tales. There is something here to interest every age group. The few questions that follow each story are designed to stimulate thinking so the convenience of literary brevity is combined with the option of in-depth discussion.

The RMC software collection holds 40 Judaic CD ROM titles and 15 diskette titles most of which are available to check-out for home previewing. Please feel free to call us at 371-8288 for information on new publications on order.

All items reviewed in װאַךאַ םױ (*Dapei HaHodesh*) are available in the Ratner Media & Technology Center or the Teacher Center of the JECC.

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