



# The Jewish Education Center of Cleveland's

## ע"פ (Dapei HaHodesh)

A monthly resource newsletter

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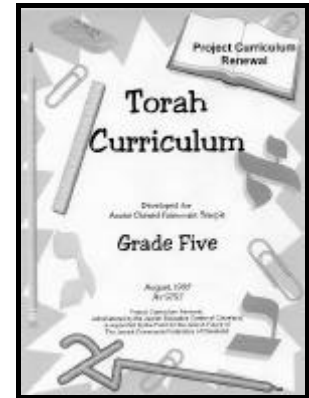
### ע"פ (Tanah - Bible)

**Editor's Note:** This issue of ע"פ (Dapei HaHodesh - The Monthly Pages) focuses on ע"פ (Tanah - Bible). 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.  
  
*L'shalom,*  
Deborah Rose - Editor

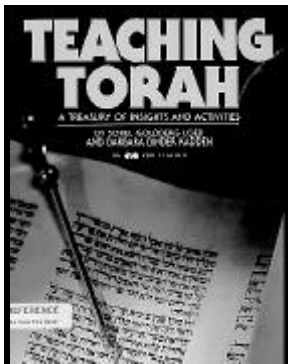
#### CURRICULUM CORNER, By Nachama Skolnik Moskowitz

##### PCR Torah Curriculum Introduced in 1997-98

This Torah curriculum was developed for the upper elementary grades of a Reform congregation. It begins with the families of *B'reishit* (Genesis) in the first year, continues from *Yosef* through the Exodus in the second year, and concludes in the third year at Mt. Sinai with an in-depth look at the Ten Commandments and the issues of living in a holy community. Each piece of curriculum includes a brief overview of the verses covered, conceptual foci, many learning activities and a resource guide. May be borrowed from the Ratner Media & Technology Center, or purchased through the Curriculum Department. [Cost: \$25 per grade level: three, four, five (\$75 for the set)].



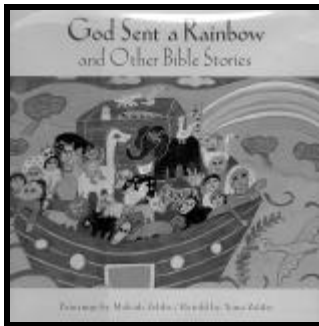
Teaching Torah: A Treasury of Insights and Activities, by Sorel Goldberg Loeb and Barbara Binder Kadden (Denver: A.R.E., 1997).



This updated version continues the fine tradition of the "Teaching" series published by A.R.E. Chapter divisions are by weekly Torah portion and offer a synopsis, insights from Jewish traditional texts, teaching strategies and family education ideas. A special addition to this volume are suggested Bar/Bat Mitzvah social justice projects that connect to the content of each weekly *parashah* (Torah portion). This is a *must* volume for any teacher of *parashat hashavuah* (the weekly Torah portion) and is incredibly useful to anyone teaching Torah.



## LITERARY LINKS, By Linda Silver



God Sent a Rainbow and Other Bible Stories by Yona Zeldis, illustrated by Malcah Zeldis (Philadelphia, PA: Jewish Publication Society, 1997), includes short and simple versions of fourteen favorite Bible stories, each matched with a full-page illustration in the primitive, brightly colored style that is Zeldis's hallmark. This is a splendidly designed book, with high quality, textured grey paper, carefully spaced, framed text, and page decorations that reflect story motifs. Each story is about three paragraphs in length. Recommended for preschool - grade 1.

Caldecott Award - winning artist, David Diaz, is the illustrator of Be Not Far From Me: Legends from the Bible by Eric Kimmel (NY: Simon and Schuster Books for Young Readers, 1998). Kimmel's robustly written stories, each centered on a Biblical character, are based on ע"וו"ו (*Tanah* - Bible) and װאָס (midrash - story/interpretation of the Bible). The modern language in which these stories are written makes them accessible to children in grades six through nine. The book can be read as a single narrative or in chapters. A note on sources, several maps, and a timeline are appended and add to the book's value.



Leo and Diane Dillon, the award-winning and highly acclaimed illustrators of many fine books for children, are the creators of To Every Thing There is a Season: Verses from Ecclesiastes (NY: The Blue Sky Press, 1998). Each double-spread page is stunningly illustrated with one of Dillon's interpretative paintings, rendered in styles from various world cultures and historical periods. An epilogue describes each painting and its relationship to the Biblical passage it accompanies. Both beautiful and moving, this book invites slow and repeated reading and is recommended for grade four through adult.

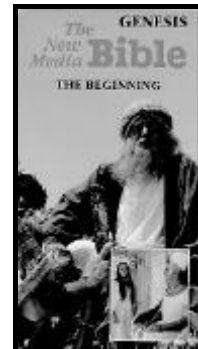
**The Isadore and Fay Rudin Collection of the Ratner Media & Technology Center (RMC) is a literature collection that supplements and supports the RMC's curriculum materials. These books provide educators with materials that make planning and teaching lessons more creative and engaging for students. The RMC staff is available to help you choose materials from the Rudin Collection and to recommend approaches using children's literature in the classroom.**



## VIDEO VIEWS, By Bonnie Shapiro

The Beginning, Oxford Vision Children's Video Bible, 1988, color, 50 minutes

This video includes such Biblical narratives as Creation, Noah and the great flood, the Patriarchs, and Moses. Simply told, and often narrated by a woman, these stories are appropriate for primary grade students. The illustrations tend to be in pastel and overall the production sounds and looks like a book being read aloud. The only caution is that the publisher is non-Jewish and therefore previewing is necessary in some settings. This video is part one; The Promised Land and Kings and Prophets complete the set. Each story lasts approximately five minutes.



The New Media Bible Genesis Series, distributed by The Genesis Project, Inc. 817 Broadway NY, 1976, color, 60 minutes.

This series of four cassettes tells the stories of Creation, Abraham, Isaac, Esau and Jacob, and Joseph. Each cassette follows the biblical narrative very closely, providing information on the people, customs, geography, and archaeology of the biblical world. The series has been used successfully in both day schools and congregational settings. It is appropriate for grades four and up.



## BRIGHT IDEAS FROM THE TEACHER CENTER, By Marci Rogozen

### Creation Mobile

One of the most popular new additions to the Teacher Center this year, this beautiful mobile consists of seven colorful pieces depicting the creation of the world. It can be used to reinforce the order of creation for units on װעןאָרע (B'reishit - Genesis), װאָרע (Shabbat - Sabbath), or the days of the week.

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



### Bible Graphic Organizer

This posterboard size visual aid allows the class to organize information learned in a particular Torah portion according to people, places, objects, numbers and events. The central portion of the board can highlight additional material such as vocabulary or conversations. By writing with a dry erase marker, the board can be used from week to week. The same format is also available in smaller sizes for individual or small group work.

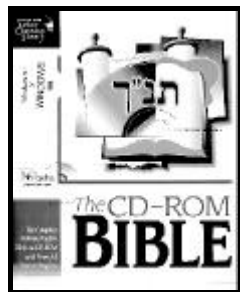
Designed by Rivkah Dahan, Teacher Center Co-Director, Jewish Education Center of Cleveland, 1995.



## TECHNOLOGY BYTES, By Maury Greenberg

Ready For Rashi (Chicago, IL: Davka Corporation, 1996).

This simple-to-use program introduces ע"וּוּ (*Rashi*) script and provides oral drill and word matching practice opportunities. The author uses his years of experience as a teacher to identify letters that students find particularly difficult to decode. Highly recommended for review and remediation. Recommended for grade four and up. Requirements: Windows 3.1 or higher, 8mb ram, sound card and color monitor.



The Ratner Media & Technology Center has a number of Bible software databases. Both The CD-ROM Bible (Chicago, IL: Davka Corporation, 1995) and אִינְרוֹט יִשְׂרָאֵל (*Otzrot Yisrael* - loosely translated as Judaic Sources) (Tel Aviv, Israel: Bar-Ilan University) allow users to search for individual words and phrases throughout the ע"דוּוּ (*Tanah* - Bible) and commentaries. Teachers will find these databases invaluable in preparing clear materials for distribution in class. In the higher grades, students can use these programs to prepare אִינְרוֹט יִשְׂרָאֵל (*divrei Torah* - study and explanation of a Torah portion) and analyze word repetitions in the text. Recommended for grade seven to adult. Requirements: Windows 3.1 or higher, 8mb ram



### Torah Websites

**UAHC Family Shabbat Table Talk** (<http://www.uahcweb.org/shabbat>) - includes a selected text, simple explanation, commentators' interpretations, and topics to discuss with your family. Great resource for family educators.

**613.org** (<http://www.613.org>) - over 100 audio/video *parashah* classes provided on-line. Listen to some great Torah teachers wherever you have a computer and an internet connection.

**Ellie's Torah Trope Tutor** (<http://www.mat.net/~ewackerm/>) - learn how to chant Torah on-line. This site won't replace *bar/bat mitzvah* teachers, but it is worthwhile for review and those looking for something a little out of the ordinary.

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

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