

Ayin L'Tzion עין לציון Eretz, Medinat, Am

Eretz, Medinat, Am—The Land, State, and People of Israel

- We often teach through the lenses of the first two.
- The very first line in the Declaration of the Establishment of the State of Israel states: “The Land of Israel was the birthplace of the Jewish people.” This captures how intertwined these three aspects are.

A Relational Approach

- The goal of Israel education is not Israel. It is to **develop an ongoing and meaningful relationship** with Israel and Israelis. (Barry Chazan, *A Philosophy of Israel Education*)
- “Israel isn’t a state. It’s a country of people.”
- Most young people with limited Israel experience and knowledge may think Israeli society looks just like their Jewish community, predominantly Ashkenazi.
- **What does that mean for the way we lose what is uniquely Israeli?**
- **What does it mean to teach about people?**
 - a. To be “in conversation with” someone
 - b. When we explore other cultures, we can hold multiple perspectives—a diversity of opinions—w/o political connotations.
 - c. Approaching these celebrations through **shared values and themes**, we more easily personalize each learner’s experience.

Several Tools and Resources to Support Relational Pedagogies

- [Israeli music playlists](#) (Spotify)
- [Israel Resource Cards](#)
- [Israel Story: Mixtape](#)
- [Binge Watch Israel](#) (Israeli TV shows with English subtitles)
- [Katan Aleinu](#) video with subtitles