



Hebrew School: The Podcast! Educator Guide

Episode 1: High Holidays

Themes:

- Holiday Customs: Foods, Greetings, Shofar Sounds
- Hebrew Sports Vocabulary
- Renewal and Starting Fresh

Listen and Learn



This episode's Listen and Learn can be found [here](#). This activity allows you to use sections of the podcast in an interactive way. It can be sent to learners or projected in the classroom.

Play and Learn



In this section, you will find **ready-made** games which expand on the themes of the episode and provide multiple modalities for engaging learners. Many games include a link to a digital version, a printable version, and ideas for adding movement.

Fill-in-the-blank Story:

- **Digital:** For non-readers, read the story aloud and create a visual word bank.
- **On Paper:** This printable version can be handed out as a worksheet.
- **Move and Shake:** Turn the story into a drama exercise and act it out! Each participant can receive one or two sentences to act out as the “narrator.” The student who fills in the blank word gets the next turn. Invite other participants to silently act out the other roles.

Find the Simanim Picture Match:

- **Digital:** As learners play online, their responses will be tracked for self-correction.
- **On Paper:** Use markers/dot markers/stickers/small tokens (Shabbat-friendly) to mark the correct photos or play bingo.
- **Move and Shake:** Place all pictures in the center of the room and designate “yes” and “no” spots in other areas of the room. Invite learners (one by one for younger learners or all together for older ones) to grab a photo and place it on the correct spot .

Mah Zeh?

- **Digital:** This extended version of the game is built in [Genial.ly](#), an online learning platform. Create a free account and adapt this game to your learners. You can also add additional vocabulary words.
- **On Paper:** This PDF can be used offline or printed out to play the game on paper.
- **Move and Shake:** Designate a space in the room for each of the answers. Ask learners to go to the one they think is correct. Older learners may enjoy “convincing” each other to change answers.

High Holidays Crossword Puzzle:

- **Digital:** There are two versions of this puzzle: Ages [6-8](#) and [9-12](#).
- **On Paper:** Each puzzle can be printed for individual or group use. Ages: [6-8](#) and [9-12](#).
- **Move and Shake:** Project the puzzle on a wall, smartboard, or hang up a printed version. Print and cut out the words and place them around the classroom. Invite learners to find the words and cut out each letter to place into the crossword. For an extra challenge, set a time limit.

Go and Learn

Below are ideas for activities to extend the learning and provide opportunities for additional enrichment.



From the bookshelf:

[Click here](#) for a list of thematic books.

Wisdom of the Crowds:

Listen to the “Wisdom of the Crowds” section of the podcast about New Year’s resolutions. Then, create your own! Learners can share their individual resolutions and can also create a resolution as a class. Additionally, learners may enjoy recording their families, other teachers, and community members.

How: [Flipgrid](#) is an easy way for learners to record themselves in the classroom or at home. [Padlet](#) also allows audio recording.

Write Your Own Story:

Invite learners to write their own story about their Rosh Hashanah experience. This can be done in class after the holiday, or learners can do this on their own to share in class.

How: [Book Creator](#) allows learners to create books easily. Each story can be added to a class book.

Looking for more High Holiday ideas? Check out [The Jewish Educator Portal](#). If you create additional materials, share your materials with other educators by becoming an Educator Contributor. Contact us at educator@jewishedproject.org for more information. Email hebrewschool@tabletmag.com with any questions or ideas. Happy New Year!