

Lesson #1:

Expressing My Jewish Solidarity with Hand Icons

Topic Areas: Israel at War, Jewish values

Grade Level: Grades 1-3, 4-6

Abstract:

Using peer discussion, students will explore their feelings towards Jewish communities in Israel and other parts of the world. Students will choose images and words that best reflect how they experience their connection to other Jewish communities.

Lesson Goals:



knowledge



skills



values

1. Students will understand that there are different ways people show support and solidarity to fellow Jewish communities.
2. Students will review Hebrew words connected to Jewish solidarity.

Lesson Plan:

- 1. Introduction:** We know from Jewish holidays that symbols take on different meanings. For example, honey symbolizes sweetness, pomegranates symbolize abundance. Today we are going to look at symbols that are very familiar to you all. Write the words "Kol Yisrael Arevim Zeh B'Zeh" on the board. Translate or explain depending on student level.
- 2. Group Activity:** Divide students into small groups and give each group a different hand emoji. Each group must discuss how their hand symbol might relate to what is written on the board - Jewish responsibility or solidarity for Jews worldwide. Each group must also assign a word or concept to what the hand symbolizes. For example: ahavah (love), tefillah (prayer), shalom (peace), keshet (connection), achrayut (responsibility), chizuk (strengthening), idud (encouragement), achdut (unity), tov (goodness), achva (brotherhood), mishpacha (family), chaverim (friendship), ezra (help), chesed (kindness), tzedakah (charity), gaava (pride).
- 3. Individual Activity:** All the hand icons and their corresponding words can then be hung on the wall and each student must choose for him/herself which symbol/idea they most connect with. Students can then explain orally or in writing how their choice reflects their personal connection to other Jewish communities.



