THE ELECTRONIC EDUCATOR-
A weekly update of information for you and your school!
A service of the NJ Region USCJ Dept. of Education
Michelle Rich, Director of Education and Youth Activities
Nita Polay Levin, Field Worker
Lisa Harris Glass, Executive Director

In this Week's Issue:

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NJ Region USCJ

CONFERENCE ON SYNAGOGUE EDUCATION

Deadline for registration: May 27, 2009!!

For religious school teachers & principals, preschool teachers & directors, cantors, rabbis, school boards, and synagogue lay people who have an interest in bettering Jewish education in their synagogue

WORKSHOPS:

*** The QUALITY HEBREW HIGH with RABBI RON ISAACS, creator and director of one of the best in the region!**

**** WORKSHOPS FOR EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATORS with CARYN BRUCKHEIMER***

****TEACHING PRAYER THE "4MAT" WAY using* Siddur Sim Shalom *with ALEX WEINBERG, author of* Siddur Sim Shalom, Remix 2.0**

***SUZI ADELSON WAINER on MULTIPLE INTELLIGENCES and HOW TO ASK QUESTIONS THAT CHALLENGE**

***RABBI ROBERT ABRAMSON, National Director of Education, speaking with school committee chairs and VPs about their role**

****LISA HARRIS GLASS, Executive Director, NJ Region USCJ, on navigating through these difficult economic times***

*** DR. SHOSHANA SILBERMAN, presenting techniques from her new book, ACTIVE JEWISH LEARNING**

AND:

**** BEHRMAN HOUSE PUBLISHERS will join us with their display and consultation w/ TERRY KAYE***

Wednesday, June 10, 2009
Cong. Neve Shalom, Metuchen, 9:30 A.M. – 3:30 P.M.

Please make check of $54/participant to NJ Region USCJ
Cost includes 3 workshops, consultations and a dairy box lunch

If you have not received your brochure and registration form, please call the office ***right away! (732) 738 - 4301***

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RELIGIOUS SCHOOL AND PRESCHOOL DIRECTORS!

Time to "order" a fall Mini-Course for your school

We are now taking requests for the FALL SEMESTER of our MINI-COURSES. To arrange for a workshop, or to ask for topics and instructors, contact Nita Polay Levin at (732) 738 – 4301
Mon, 9 – 5, Tues 10 – 2:30, Thurs, 1 – 5 or Levin@USCJ.org

Summer at the Fuchsberg Jerusalem Center

Wine and Cheese at Fuchsberg - All United Synagogue members who will be in Israel on Sunday, July 5, are invited to United Synagogue's Fuchsberg Jerusalem Center from 6 to 7 p.m. for a wine and cheese reception.

Summer at the Yeshiva - The Conservative Yeshiva at United Synagogue's Fuchsberg Jerusalem Center offers two three-week sessions this summer, which include intensive Hebrew Ulpan and Talmud study. Sessions begin June 28 and July 19.

New Directors Institute

Knowing how to run a school isn't intuitive, even for thoroughly well-educated and intuitive teachers. The Nat'l education department invites new directors of religious schools, along with directors who have been in place for up to two years, to NYC for the 10th Annual New Directors Institute

Tues., June 23, to Thurs., June 24

For a brochure and registration form, contact Nita Polay Levin, NJ Region USCJ Education Field Worker, at Levin@USCJ.org or (732) 738 – 4301

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JEA GOES TO WASHINGTON!

Shalom, Chaverim,
Several of you have been asking for the dates for the JEA conference in 2010. Although some of you may have already received this information, I didn't want to miss anyone. Save the date for this Capital Event: the Jewish Educators Assembly conference to take place January 24-27 in Our Nation's Capital.

The Jewish Educators Assembly is THE professional organization for Jewish educators. It is a wonderful forum for networking, program sharing, learning and friendship. If you are not yet a member of JEA and want to have this strong professional presence supporting your work, you can download more information at the site www.jewisheducators.org or contact me for more information.

Hope to see you in DC!

Pricing will be* BELOW *last year's cost of $1325 double occupancy / $1600 single occupancy.

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Executive Director
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Babaganewz

May Holidays
Yom Yerushalayim and Shavuot

In This Issue

Yom Yerushalayim

Shavuot

Summer Reading

Looking for **great Jewish books** for your students for the summer and next

May 13, 2008 / 19 Iyar 5769

I'm writing with some ideas for your classroom celebrations of the reunification of Jerusalem and the holiday of the giving of the Torah. I hope these resources reach you at just the right time to enrich your school's observances.

As a special offer, if you're looking for ways to finish up

summer and next year? BabagaNewz has **study guides** for over thirty books. Browse the books **here** and see all the study guides **here**.

Quick Links

BabagaNewz.com

Check out games
Send an e-card

Join our list

B'Shalom,
Sara Marx
Editor, BabagaNewz.com

P.S. As your school celebrates Tel Aviv's 100th birthday, click here for a lesson designed to familiarize students with **vibrant Tel Aviv**!

Celebrate Jerusalem

Yom Yerushalayim
28 Iyar/May 22nd

Mini-Lessons for Yom Yerushalayim
Make a timeline of Israel's history, learn about the Kotel, and listen to Naomi Shemer's music.

The Battle for Jerusalem
While learning about Zion Karasenti's experiences during the Six Day War, students will be encouraged to place themselves in his shoes. Click here for the Israel@60 supplement in which this article appeared.

Gateways: A Ceremony for Yom Yerushalayim
This is a scripted ceremony that movingly describes the historical events witnessed by the gates of the Old City of Jerusalem.

>>More Yom Yerushalayim lessons

Celebrate Torah

Shavuot
6-7 Sivan/May 29-30th

Mini-Lessons for Shavuot
Here are some ideas for skits and other engaging and quick activities to celebrate Shavuot.

Shavuot Jewish Wedding Simulation
Create a unique opportunity to explore God's relationship to the Jewish people using the metaphor of a bride and groom, and teach about the customs and rituals of the Jewish wedding.

Jewish wedding.

Munching on Mount Sinai
By following the recipe for a Mount Sinai cake, students can learn the details of the Jewish people's receiving God's greatest gift, the Torah.

>>More Shavuot lessons
>>Talmud Torah (Learning Torah) Resources

Kar-Ben E-Newsletter

Quick Links

Shavuot Books

What's new at Kar-Ben

Jewish Calendars

Find us on Facebook

Kar-Ben is now on Facebook! **Check out our fan page**!

Get Kar-Ben updates on Twitter! Follow **@KarBenPub**

This year, the holiday of Shavuot is May 29th and 30th. Also known as the Festival of Weeks, Shavuot falls seven weeks after Passover and marks the day when God gave the Ten Commandments to Moses and the Israelites.

Kar-Ben's Shavuot books have great ideas on how to celebrate this holiday with little readers!

Ten Good Rules

With 50 carefully chosen words and photographs of preschoolers acting out the Ten Commandments, **Ten Good Rules** introduces young children to the fundamental rules while teaching them to count from one to ten. The commandments have been recast in positive child-friendly language to make them easier for children to understand.

"The book makes teaching the Ten Commandments to young children effortless and effective....perfect for use both at home and in the classroom." -*Jewish Book World*

"A beautifully updated presentation of the Ten Commandments for young children." -*AJL Newsletter*

Make Blintzes for Shavuot!

It is said that the words of the Torah are as sweet as milk and honey, so it is traditional to eat dairy foods, such as blintzes or cheesecake, to celebrate Shavuot.

Mrs. Shapiro's Blintz Recipe

Adapted from ***Sammy Spider's First Shavuot***

Pancakes

1 cup flour

2 eggs

1 1/2 cup milk

2 tsp neutral flavored oil such as canola

Mix flour, eggs, and milk together. Heat oil in frying pan over medium-high heat. When heated, drop spoonful of batter and tilt the pan to coat. When lightly browned, flip over to cook briefly. Remove from pan and stack pancakes between paper towels.

Filling

1lb small curd cottage cheese, drained

1 egg

1/4 cup sugar

Mix filling ingredients. Place a spoonful in the center of each blintz. Tuck in sides and roll. Place blintzes in buttered baking dish and bake at 375 degrees for 30 mins.

Important Reminders:

Shavuot: May 29-30

Preschool Corner:

Boker tov,

I'd like to alert you to a curriculum resource from Behrman House, a sort-of Jewish weekly reader for early childhood, called

Jewish and Me

I wrote the teacher's guide, which will be out this summer, because I believe there are many developmentally appropriate ways to use this type of resource to add another angle to the Jewish/holiday curriculum.

B'Shalom,
Maxine Segal Handelman,
USCJ Consultant on Early Childhood

There is a new early childhood product from Behrman House— *Jewish and Me*. Designed to engage all of the senses and reinforce key developmental skills, the 16 booklets in the series cover all of the Jewish holidays, with activities to complete in class and ways to bring the learning home. Students and their families will love the companion website www.behrmanhouse.com/jam, where they can learn holiday blessings, sing songs, find recipes, and read holiday stories.

Behrman House is offering a free set of the materials to you. Simply fill out the information on this page (http://www.behrmanhouse.com/jewish-and-me-signup) and Behrman House will send you a free copy of *Jewish and Me* right away.

Directors: Not a member of the listserv? Contact

ECDir@USCJ.ORG

For your teachers: contact http://uscj.org/archives/ecteach.html

Click on "Join or leave the list (or change settings)" and fill in your information from there.
Why re-invent the wheel? Get in on this exciting exchange of ideas & find solutions to your issues!

COMBING THROUGH MY FILES:

Several articles on religious school report cards

Articles on closing the school year & year's end procedures (repair form, teacher evaluations, etc.)

Activities for Shavuot

Lech Lecha: a short ceremony to recognize high school graduates at the end of the year *(very little prep needed)*

61 Things You Should Know About Israel

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