



AMERICAN COMMUNITIES HELPING ISRAEL

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Israel @ 60

ACHI's Classroom Ideas and School-wide Projects

- a. Design/create poster, stamp, T- shirt, banner, pennant, iron-on patch, car sticker, song, 60 Sites to See in Israel, Run for Israel @ 60, Bike for Israel @ 60, 60 ACHI Cards for Israel @ 60, DVD, Power Point slide show
- b. Time Line for a child, time line for Israel – Road to 60
- c. Map Study – from simplistic to complex - regional, product, topographical, roads and major cities.
 - i. Map of the Kibbutzim include facts regarding their formation, past and present population, culture, and major industry and/or main source of income
 - ii. Israel – Just for Kids Map of Israel including children attractions i.e. Eretz Bereshit (Land of Genesis), Ateret Kohanim, Mini Israel, Lunar Park, jeeping, repelling, snorkeling in Eilat, children's museums, Ein Eyal, Mifletzet, Biblical Zoo, Naot Kedumim, camel ride, white water rafting on the Jordan River, visit to a chocolate factory etc.
- d. Accomplishments for Israel @ 60 – national and international recognition for advancements in agriculture, medicine, pharma, technology, entertainment, space age (Ilan Ramon), defense, international security systems, literature, tourism, export, disaster relief, help to 3rd world countries, and more
- e. 60 Factoids to remember about Israel – date of birth of state, capital, national anthem, government building, flag, symbol, official language (author of dictionary), President, Prime Minister, Internationally recognizable Cabinet Ministers, U.N. Ambassador, five major cities, bodies of water, irrigation system, regions, seasons, religious holidays, national holidays, holy places, recreation, population, size of country, currency, favorite foods, Aliyah, subjects studied in school, Hebrew months of the year, shopping (Shuk, Makolet, Kanyon), Universities, Yeshivot, Great Synagogue, Yad Vashem, Kotel, museums, Biblical cities, airline, airports, Tzahal, major Kibbutzim, burial places to visit and pray and more
- f. Israel and America – national anthem, flag, symbol, colors, capital, population, size, sport, food, Independence Day, Memorial Day, currency



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- g. Zimriah – write poetry, compose music, create scenery, choreograph dance/movement, design costumes – plan for the presentation
- h. Israel Museum Display - Israeli gift items found in homes displayed in classroom - challah covers, chanukiyah, dreidel, seforim, games, jewelry, kippah, serving pieces, art etc. include brief history or story regarding the item on display.
- i. Chadashot – Israel in the news corner – print copy from the internet, newspaper article, magazine article – talk to it, debate it, vote on the topic
- j. Israel Fundraising Club – student centric project - empower the students to select/ manage a project and assign committees for publicity, finance, marketing etc.; choose a Tzedakah
- k. Game – Israel - Famous @ 60 – Famous Sites, Famous Cities, Famous People (history and entertainment), Famous Dates, Famous Laws and Customs, Famous Words/Phrases. Students to create a board game, flash cards and /or Jeopardy type games.
- l. Israel Fair/Expo – students entertain, vendors sell crafts, Israeli food, books, art work on display
- m. Class or school works for Israel’s Ministry of Tourism – promote a city/cities to local visitors and tourists by creating a campaign with an ad on the radio, poster for billboards, invitation/mailer, newspaper ad, and more
- n. Virtual trip to Israel – culminating activity for the year – design passports, create 10 day tour package, prepare album/journal for photos and memorabilia from trip. If applicable, prepare a video incorporating home videos and pictures taken by students especially for this project while in Israel this year.
- o. Shishim Dakot - Boost to Hebrew vocabulary (60 minutes of only Hebrew) – create a list of new phrases learned and post in classroom. Students can keep their own dictionary to reinforce new vocabulary. Create a classroom dictionary of “when I get to Israel I need to say” and other useful words and phrases.
- p. Interview an Oleh, an Israeli soldier, an Israeli student – create the list of questions to ask, contact interviewee, publish the interview in school newspaper or local paper
- q. New Commercial for Israel – one is already being shown – Israel at 60 – Israel is even older than that!
- r. Crafts Day – design/create new products for Israel to export – t-shirt, jewelry, art, placemat, chanukiya, mishloach manot tote bag, ke’ara, tzedakah boxes etc. Involve the art teacher and program in this project.
- s. Synagogues in Israel – exterior and interior design, Torah for Ashkenazim and S’faradim, Chanukiya displayed on the outside, government subsidies for the synagogue/Rabbi



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- t. Sounds of Israel – Shofar – when and where it will be heard, languages spoken, 60 Hebrew words or expressions you will hear walking thru the streets - Shalom, Mah Shlomcha?, Ma Nishma?, B'seder, LeHitraot, Zeherut, Ya'ala, Adoni, G'veret., LaBriyut, Kadima, B'Vakasha, Toda, Odef, Ma Hasha'a, Yashar Yashar, Kama Ze Oleh?, Shabbat Shalom,. Shavua Tov, Chag Sameach, Shana Tova, Chanukah Sameach, Boker Tov, Erev Tov, Layla Tov, Nahag, Tov, Lo Tov, Henay, Mazal Tov, Zacheeta, Yediot, Ma Chadash?, Yeminah, Smolah, Kol Hakovod, Sherutim, Alo, Selicha, La Sadeh, Taxi, Yom Kef, Nahag, Chayal, tc.
- u. Tefilah L'Shlom Hamedinah – who wrote it, when is it said and why
- v. Hatikvah – Who wrote the words to Israel's national anthem and when, what tune is used, the meaning of the words (what meaningful word is missing?)
- w. Enjoy Transliterations – “You understand more than you think!” Banana, Halo, televisiya, auto, autobus, taxi, sendvitch, telephone, chocolat, chocho, kafeh, soda, sigaria, and more
- x. Interview a Sabra. Why are they referred to with that name (name of a fruit grown in Israel)?
- y. Video Festival - Include informative, educational and significant videos re Israel throughout the year.
- z. Israel through costume from pre state to present
 - aa. Cultural mosaic of Israel
 - i. Customs, Languages, and Minhagim of all different groups that have been gathered together in Israel
 - ii. Costumes of the land of Israel/Fashion Show
 - iii. Food – A taste of Israel/Cookbook and Demonstration
 - iv. Ceremonies/Variations on a theme
 - bb. Being a Child in Israel and in America: differences and similarities; joys and concerns.
 - i. Write essays with pre determined first or last paragraph
 - ii. Write up interviews with children of similar ages in both countries
 - iii. Prepare a panel discussion with a moderator and children taking the part of a. American Children, b. Israeli Children.
 - cc. Finish the year with a school wide Chidon based on knowledge culled during the year based on the program Israel @ 60.

Feel free to adopt or adapt any of the ideas or programs to your academic setting. They are applicable to Judaic studies programs but can also be used to enhance a history lesson, a science lesson, creative writing, art, music, and more.