

Matan

B'nai Mitzvah
Inclusion Guide

Unit 8: Technology, Virtual Learning & Additional Resources



BIG IDEAS

Participants will familiarize themselves with a variety of technological tools and additional resources that will support the *B'nai Mitzvah* process.





Sefaria

Sefaria is home to 3,000 years of Jewish texts. The website offers free access to texts, translations, and commentaries so that everyone can participate in the ongoing process of studying, interpreting, and creating Torah. Users can look up Torah portions and access translations, commentaries, and links to recordings of how to read each verse of Torah using embedded audio from Pocket Torah.

Suggested Technology Platforms

Ways to utilize with your students:

- Explore audio and visual resources for *Torah* reading and *trope*
- Choose from different English translations of each line of the *parsha*
- Access various commentaries for *d'var Torah*
- Access source sheets that utilize the text for themes and ideas for *d'var Torah*
- Create own source sheet related to the *parsha* to help with engagement and understanding of the text

<https://www.sefaria.org/texts>





Pocket Torah

PocketTorah is a free application that can be accessed on a mobile device that provides the user the ability to learn the weekly Torah and Haftarah.

Suggested Technology Platforms

Ways to utilize with your students:

- Explore audio and visual resources for *Torah* reading and *trope*
- Practice the Hebrew reading and develop the skill of combining Hebrew and *trope* together
- Access and learn *Torah* reading piece-by-piece.

<https://www.pockettorah.com/>



Mentimeter

Mentimeter allows educators and students alike to create live polls, quizzes, and Q&A within a virtual call, class, meeting, or event.

Suggested Technology Platforms

Ways to utilize with your students:

- Engage with students virtually. Mentimeter tools can be used to make sure that lessons are interactive and engaging
- Review content, explore questions related to the *d'var Torah*, or other aspects of *b'nai mitzvah* planning
- Engage with community if student is having a virtual ceremony, allowing the student to interact with the audience throughout the ceremony

<https://www.mentimeter.com/>



Flip Grid

Flipgrid by Microsoft is an innovative educational platform that empowers users to create dynamic visual grids of discussions, activities, and other engaging content for their students.

Suggested Technology Platforms

Ways to utilize with your students:

- Engage with students virtually. Flipgrid tools can be used to make sure that lessons are interactive and engaging
- Create videos to communicate and explain things to their students, and students can make video replies to their teachers
- Leave private, custom written or video feedback to encourage students.
- Utilize a built-in whiteboard, screen recording (great for explaining step-by-step processes), auto-captions, and transcript features.
- Utilize features that can be helpful for virtual learning around the *b'nai mitzvah* process

<https://flipgrid.app/>



Google Workspace

Google Workspace, is a cloud-based collection of productivity and collaboration tools. It includes core applications like Gmail, Google Docs, Drive, Sheets, and Meet, which allow individuals and teams to create documents, communicate, and collaborate remotely in real-time

Suggested Technology Platforms

Ways to utilize with your students:

- Use Google Docs, Sheets, & Slides as fully functional word processors, spreadsheets, and presentation builders for tutors and students to work on projects related to the *b'nai mitzvah* process together in real time.
- Create a shared folder in Google Drive that houses resources related to the *d'var Torah*, *Mitzvah Project*, and other items that will be a part of the *b'nai mitzvah*.
- Utilize Google Meet for virtual meetings that include screen sharing capabilities, a white board, quizzes, polls and more. Google Meet can also be used for an interactive, virtual *b'nai mitzvah* ceremony.
- Utilize Google Calendar to create a shared calendar of all meetings (in-person or virtual) related to the *b'nai mitzvah* process including shared tasks and deadlines within the calendar that will show up in Gmail.

<https://workspace.google.com/>

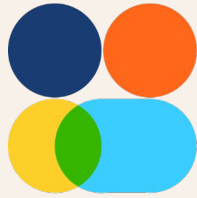




Additional Resources for *B'nai Mitzvah* Support

- **Howard Blas** – Special Educator and B'nai Mitzvah teacher with many helpful resources on website about teaching *trope* and Hebrew. His videos can be [found here](#).
- **Cantor Arianne Brown** – Experienced cantor and educator, creator of “Tricks of the Trope” 3-part series on YouTube can be [found here](#).
- [Gateways for Jewish Education](#)
- [Jewish Learning Venture](#)
- [JBI Library](#)
- [Jewish Deaf Resource Center](#)





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**Reshaping Jewish
Communities Through
Disability Inclusion**