



Theme: Israel

Week: 17

Learning Outcomes

Students Will:

- Identify important landmarks of Israel
- Listen and dance to Israeli music
- Write prayers to be placed in the Kotel

Materials & Resources

- Book: Everybody Says Shalom, by Leslie A. Kimmelman
- Blocks, legos, etc.
- Sand
- Table salt/sea salt
- Water color paint and paint brushes
- “Artifacts” (ex. small pottery, toy Judaica, etc.)
- Magnifying glass, paint brush

Arrival/Warm Up (15 min)

Have different materials out for students to play with – sand, blocks, legos, etc. Later they will be able to connect those materials to different things in Israel (the beach, the kotel, etc.).

Specific Accommodations

- If possible, put student picture next to their name at the table so they know where to sit even if they cannot recognize their names in print
- Place an item on the label of what they represent in Israel (ex. legos on picture of the kotel)

Tefilah Time (15 min)

To start this *Tefilah* Time, explain to students that many people feel that the Kotel in Israel is one of the holiest places in the world to pray. People will place notes to God in the Kotel.

Before we start *Tefilah* Time, we will be writing notes to God to be sent with someone to place in the kotel for us!

Specific Accommodations

- use cube chairs, cushions, carpet dots, or hula hoops for students who need support sitting on the floor or for students who need help understanding how to stay in their spot
- allow students to draw their note instead of write
- provide template for students to fill out as their note

Centers (45 min. 15 each)



Center Theme: Hebrew Letters

Center Activity: Yisrael, Hakotel, Yam, etc.

Have the Hebrew letters for different Israeli landmarks placed out in different forms (edible *Aleph Bet*, regular letters, magnetic). Encourage students to explore the letters and try stretching the word so that they can hear each letter sound individually. Include pictures to go with these Hebrew words so students know what they are spelling.

Specific Accommodations:

- Assign specific words to specific students depending on the length of the word and familiarity the student has with those letters

Center Theme: Art

Center Activity: Eilat Dead Sea Art

Explain that the Dead Sea in the south of Israel is so salty that people can float in it! Create art with salt and water colors! Have students paint with different blue watercolors and then sprinkle salt on the water colors while the paint is still wet. When the paint dries, have students wipe the salt off to see how their Dead Sea came out! Optional: have students glue on a picture of themselves like they are “floating” on the Dead Sea

Specific Accommodations:

- Provide different kinds of paint brushes to use
- Provide a spray bottle for students to more easily spray their water colors and then paint with them

Center Theme: Sensory

Center Activity: Archeological Dig

Place different “artifacts” in a sand box or sensory table. Provide magnifying glasses, paper for students to draw the artifacts they find, and paint brushes for them to brush off the sand from the artifacts they find.

Specific Accommodations:

- Provide a visual list of the artifacts you bury so students know what they are looking for

Bracha Spotlight (and snack time, 20 min):

Bring in hummus, pita, and veggies for snack today. Go over the different *brachot* for each of the parts of the snack.

Whole Group Activity (30 min):

Read the book Everybody Says Shalom by Leslie Kimmelman. As you read the book, have students notice all the places the characters in the book explore. Use the glossary in the back of the book to support their understanding of the different locations the book illustrates.

After you have explored the book, teach an Israeli folk dance to students! Break the dance into small parts and teach them one part at a time. Go over each part by itself before putting it together with the part from before.

Specific Accommodations:

- If learning the dance moves is too difficult, play freeze dance with Israeli music
- Modify the movements so that students have an easier time doing them
- Give out tambourines for students that would rather play along to the music than do the dance

Closing/*Lehitraot* (10 min):

- See if students can remember the 3 different meanings for the word *Shalom*! Ask them to reflect on when they have heard the word *Shalom* before (when someone says *Shabbat Shalom* or in a *tefilah*)
- Finally, sing *Shalom Chaverim* together

The Kotel



Beach



Letter Templates for Kotel

My name is:

I wish for:



Peace



Happiness



Healing

For:

My Name is:

My Wish is (draw below):