

Intergenerational B-Mitzvah Family Session (for Preteens and Grandparents): Reading Between the Lines

SAMPLE



Welcome and Greeting (10 minutes)

Facilitator's Tip: Ask each participant to fill out a name tag. Grandparents can put the name of their grandchild underneath their own name in smaller print. Ensure that students who will be partnering with a grandparent at a distance have successfully set up their devices and connected. Ask the grandparent at a distance to have paper and a writing instrument available.

SAY:

Welcome, students and grandparents, to our Moving Traditions session “Reading between the Lines.” We are thrilled to have grandparents with us today! A big welcome to those of you joining us on FaceTime or Zoom.

Today we will explore different ways to examine Jewish texts, a skill we think you will find helpful in looking at prayers and Torah stories, or even when you think about writing your *d'var Torah* speech.

Grandparents, you will learn along with your grandchild and, based on these reading-between-the-lines Torah text strategies today, you'll see how you can be a resource for your grandchild as they write their speeches.

For students who are joined by a grandparent at a distance, be prepared to take your grandparent — on your device — with you as you move around the room. Show your grandparent what you are doing and make them feel part of the group. *Show an example by demonstrating how to firmly hold (and flip the view of) a cell phone or tablet so the grandparent can see the rest of the group.*

To get started, let's play a simple game I call "It's All About Perspective."

Facilitator's Tip: If your group is larger than 14 sets of grandparent/grandchild, assign grandparent-grandchild pairs to play this game with 4–6 other pairs. Direct the small groups to form small circles, so they can hear and see each other easily.

DISTRIBUTE one marker and one index card to each participant.

SAY:

I am going to show you a picture. Using your index card, everyone write the first thing you see and keep your answer to yourself. Ready?

Hold up Rabbit Duck Illusion for 30 seconds, making sure everyone has a chance to see it. Then put it out of sight.

Don't show your card to anyone yet. Here is the next step. Each person in the group will take a turn to introduce themselves, and then show their card and read it aloud to the group. Then the person on your right will go next, until everyone has a turn. I'll model.

"Hello, I'm X (*say your name, and hold up your card*) and I saw Y (*say what you saw first when looking at the picture*)."

Pass the game to the next person or designate a starting person in each group if you divided into groups. Remind students to include their grandparents who are participating remotely.

SAY:

Raise your hand if you saw a rabbit or bunny. Raise your hand if you saw a duck. Did anyone see something else? Tell us about that.

Perspective. We looked at the same picture and didn't all see the same thing. Yet all of your answers were correct based on the image you viewed. Today we will look at different ways to view, not images, but the written word. Thank you for playing our little game.

www.movingtraditions.org

www.jewishgrandparentsnetwork.org