

Shomer Collective

Inspiring end-of-life conversations and
experiences, guided by Jewish wisdom

shomercollective.org

hello@shomercollective.org

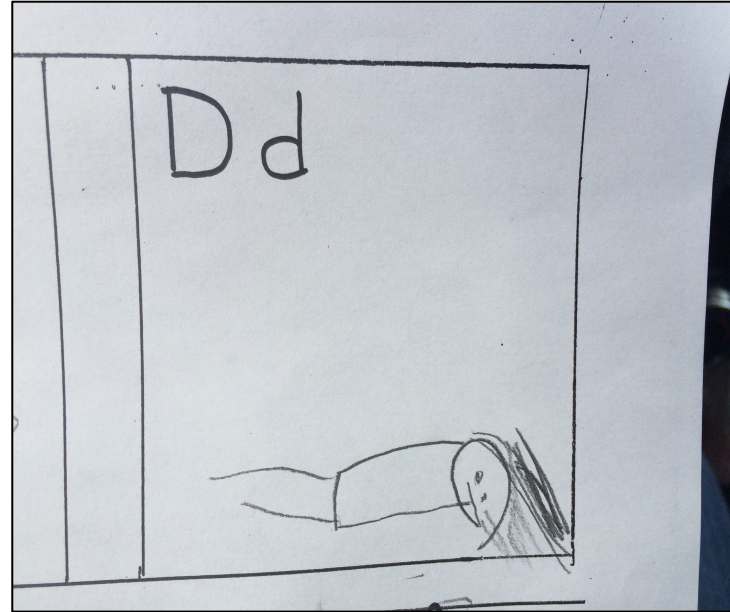
Tonight's agenda:

1. Grounding the work in Jewish wisdom and practice
2. General tips for talking *with* grandchildren
3. Understanding death
4. Ages and stages
5. Questions & Discussion

www.shomercollective.org

hello@shomercollective.org

On Talking WITH Grandchildren About Life & Death



shomercollective.org

hello@shomercollective.org

On Talking WITH Grandchildren About Life & Death

וְהָיוּ הַדְּבָרִים הָאֵלֶּה אֲשֶׁר אֲנִי מְצַוְךָ הַיּוֹם עַל-לְבָבְךָ:

וְשִׁנַּנְתָּם לְבָנֶיךָ וְדִבַּרְתָּ בָּם בְּשִׁבְתְּךָ בְּבֵיתְךָ וּבְלִכְתְּךָ בַּדֶּרֶךְ וּבְשֹׁכְבְּךָ וּבְקוּמְךָ:

Deuteronomy 6:7-8

Take to heart these instructions with which I charge you this day.

Impress them upon your children. Recite them when you stay at home and when you are away, when you lie down and when you get up.

shomercollective.org

hello@shomercollective.org



Understanding Death

1. **Irreversible** death is permanent
2. **Final** all functioning stops with death
3. **Inevitable** death universal for all living things
4. **Causality** what causes death

shomercollective.org

hello@shomercollective.org

General tips for talking with grandchildren about death:

1. Listen and observe
2. Only answer what is being asked
3. Your grandchildren are not you; clarify your own beliefs
4. Normalizing the conversation
5. Recognize that grandchildren learn from other sources
6. Share proactively when appropriate
- 7. It's OK to not know all the answers**

Ages & Stages

Toddlers/Preschoolers

- See death as temporary
- Concrete thinkers
- Language matters/no euphemisms

Elementary School Aged Children

- Understand finality of death
- Worry about what will happen to THEM

Tweens/Young Teens

- Understand death, confused emotions about it
- Start thinking “philosophically” about death
- Often have feelings of guilt/regret

www.shomercollective.org

hello@shomercollective.org

