PURIM
RESOURCES

Creating fun resources for teaching Purim

Purim is a festival of commemoration and an intricate part of Jewish tradition. It finds its roots in an important chapter of history; when Mordecai and Esther prevented all the Jews of the old Persian Empire from being killed. Today, Purim is an amazing day celebrated by the Jewish community worldwide. For children, it is a chance to experience what it is like to be a part of that community. They'll attend public readings, partake in gift-giving and charity events, and end the celebration with a fantastic meal. The more children know about Purim, the greater their understanding of their cultural heritage will be. What better place to start educating them than in your classroom? Educational apps for children, like Ji Tap are the perfect tools to teach Purim and Judaism in general.

Using community resources to teach Purim

More traditional classroom tools, like textbooks and worksheets, aren't always readily available when teaching Jewish Studies in school. But understanding Judaism is important for young Jewish children as it will help them grow up to be productive members of society and prolific advocates of their cultural heritage. Fortunately, through online initiatives and communities, such as Jewish Interactive, you are now able to make use of educational apps for children to teach all the relevant aspects of Jewish culture in a fun and novel way. On these communities, you'll also find lesson plans, classroom activity templates and testimonies from other teachers to help you carve out your own educational program. This saves you a lot of time as you don't have to extensively plan and prepare materials anymore. You can focus on what really matters; being a mentor for your students.

Purim apps on Ji Tap

Ji Tap consists of a whole set of educational apps for children that are specifically catered towards Jewish Studies. Using any desktop or Apple device, you can access the platform and choose topics that are relevant to your current classroom curriculum. The following apps are a great place to start when introducing Purim to your students, but there are many more available:

1. Purim Quiz

The Purim Quiz will test your students' knowledge of the Purim story. Through a series of audio-visual cue cards, your class must answer questions about how the story goes, as well as what customs and traditions stem from Purim. Ideal for children between six and eight years old.

2. Purim Trivia

Playing Purim Trivia, children aged six to eight will answer fun and brightly coloured questions about the different characters of the Purim story. It is a great way to freshen up your class' knowledge of Purim should they wish to retell the story to their younger siblings at home.

3. Purim Fun

Purim Fun is intended to teach your class more about the Mitzvot of Purim, the actual story and the culture and traditions that surround it today. Play the various minigames of the Purim fun app, like find Waldo. They're a good class activity and will help start up a discussion about the importance of Purim.

Creating your own materials

Your local community is bound to have members with an intricate knowledge of Purim and other Jewish holidays and celebrations. Why not call upon them to help develop your own resources for teaching Purim. As a bonus, have your class help in creating these using online resources. It will give them huge satisfaction to know that they've contributed to the greater good of Jewish heritage. It also promotes creative

thinking and introduces your students to working with technology, something that will help them later in life. You can create a plethora of educational games like:

- Quizzes and trivia games
- Word searches
- Matching games
- Soundboards
- Create a movie-apps
- Drawing games

You can use an existing game and adapt it to the needs of your classroom or you can start from scratch.

Let's say you wanted to create a matching game. Start by hitting the 'Create' button and design your slides or chose a template.

- Be sure your layout works for a puzzle or matching game.
- When your slide is finished, use the carving tool to turn it into a puzzle.
- Feel free to add any audio to your different slides using the record function.
- Once finished, you can define play style, difficulty level and more.

If you are creating more than one app or game on Purim, you can group them all in a class for other teachers to use.

Bringing Jewish Studies into the household

Digital tools like Ji Tap's Educational apps for children are perfect to bring what you are teaching in class into your students' homes and community. After all, these online games can be played everywhere, at any time, as a family or with friends.

Ji Studio

Ji Studio contains a rich collection of Purim-themed stickers, story backgrounds, Hebrew Purim words, characters, dress-ups, photographs, and songs relating to Purim. The Torah Text includes the entire text of the Megillah in English and in Hebrew! With a few taps, you can do in seconds what you could never do before. Use our Purim Lesson Ideas and Activities guide for wonderful ideas for classroom activities.