

HEBREW THROUGH MOVEMENT

יוצר אור



Originally developed as a complement to the JECC's curriculum,
Lasim Lev: Sh'ma and Its Blessings, plus Kiddush

Jewish Education Center of Cleveland

March, 2016

**A project of the Curriculum Department of the Jewish Education Center of Cleveland,
funded by the Fund for the Jewish Future of the Jewish Federation of Cleveland**

INTRODUCTION TO USING HEBREW THROUGH MOVEMENT WITH PRAYERS AND BLESSINGS

This unit is one of a series developed by the Jewish Education Center of Cleveland as a starting point for planning prayer and blessing lessons using Hebrew Through Movement. Indeed, the power of Hebrew Through Movement is in its ability to introduce and reinforce key vocabulary of Jewish prayers and rituals by using the foundational commands that have students walking, running, turning, and pointing. With HTM, students learn Hebrew by listening and reacting, and as a result, words and phrases stick in their heads much easier than when they attempt to memorize a list of words.

A few things to note:

- At the stage of language that Hebrew Through Movement operates, students will never fully be able to understand all the Hebrew words and phrases of a blessing or prayer. But they can be introduced to enough vocabulary so that the blessing begins to take on meaning.
- To work with the prayers and blessings, students need to have completed Foundational Level Five in the curriculum guide (available for free download from the home page of: HebrewThroughMovement.org).¹ This level of learning provides the basic vocabulary to introduce and reinforce the complicated language of Hebrew prayers. Core commands that will be helpful include:

לָקוּם	get up
לְלַכּוֹת אֶל	walk to
לְקַפוֹץ אֶל	jump to
לְהַצְבִּיעַ עַל	point to
לְקַחַת	take
לְגַעַת ב	touch
לְהַרְיֵם אֶת	raise up
לְהוֹרִיד אֶת	lower
לְשִׂים _____ עַל	put (the)(a) _____ on

- Most of the time, HTM focuses on individual words, but at times an entire phrase is offered as the object of a command.
- Note that the JECC develops curriculum in response to the needs of local Cleveland congregations. After evaluation and revision during a pilot year, our materials are then shared nationally. The Hebrew Through Movement lessons are embedded into two JECC prayer curricula:
 - *Lasim Lev* (a focus on the *Sh'ma* and its Blessings, plus *Kiddush*)
 - *Lakum...La'amod* (a focus on the *Amidah*, plus *V'ahavta*)

¹ Teachers gain the basic skills for working with Hebrew Through Movement through the 10 hour online-seminar offered by the Jewish Education Center of Cleveland: <http://www.hebrewthroughmovement.org/online-seminar-registration.html>

Both are available for free download from JECCMarketplace.com. If your program needs a specific prayer, blessing, or vocabulary that is not included, use the general template provided in these lessons to create your own.

This guide contains:

- Suggestions for the vocabulary a teacher might choose in working with a prayer or blessing
- Ideas for teaching each of the chosen vocabulary words
- Resource Sheets with pictures that will help with the teaching of concepts (print these in color, preferably on cardstock; lamination is optional)
- Explanations of when students may have learned specific vocabulary if your program uses *Lasim Lev* or *Lakum...La'amod* OR if your program has been teaching the prayers/blessings in the same order by which these guides are organized.

Three teaching tips:

- Teachers are welcome to introduce vocabulary from this guide in any order they wish BUT it is helpful to complement student learning with words that match the current focus of their *t'fillah* class. Thus, if you are a Hebrew Through Movement teaching specialist, be sure to stay in contact with the classroom teacher so you choose the most helpful vocabulary, weekly
- Remember to start each lesson with a review of past vocabulary. This review should contain words students have already learned that will assist in the rest of the lesson. For instance, if you know students will be touching objects (לְגַעַת בּ) and picking them up (לְהָרִים אֶת), include those verb forms in the review.
- Anytime you complete a Hebrew Through Movement lesson based on a prayer, blessing or ritual, end your session by helping your students recite the actual blessing. This creates immediate and strong reinforcement between the vocabulary just learned and the actual prayer.

At the end of each individual lesson, recite the segment of יוצר אור that matches vocabulary taught.

Vocabulary options for HTM are indicated in red:

ברוך אתה יי, אלהינו מלך העולם,

יוצר אור, ובורא חשך,

עשה שלום ובורא את הכל:

המאיר לארץ ולדורים עליה ברחמים,

ובטובו מחדש בכל יום תמיד

מעשה בראשית:

מה רבו מעשיך יי, כלם בחכמה עשית, מלאה הארץ קנייך:

תתברך יי אלהינו על שבח מעשה ידיך.

ועל מאורי אור שעשית יפארוך סלה.

אור חדש על ציון תאיר

ונזקה כלנו מהרה לאורו:

ברוך אתה יי יוצר המאורות

• לשים לב (pay attention)

- In the JECC's curriculum for Sh'ma and Its Blessings, a core focus is that these prayers ask us to "pay attention" in a variety of ways. Teaching this command will help the students as they work with this overall t'fillah curriculum.

REVIEW from ברכו and שמע: Give a series of commands (stand up, sit down, walk, etc) and then say לשים לב which will cue the students to stop, lean in, look at you and pay attention.

• **אור - חושך** (light - dark)

- Note that within the lessons in *Lasim Lev*, the t'fillah teacher will be reinforcing light and dark, as well as many of the other words in this HTM unit. The photos in your HTM guide are the same as the ones for the *Lasim Lev* t'fillah learning. Also, in the main t'fillah lesson, students are introduced to the words of this phrase in English and a bit of Hebrew. With HTM, you're helping make the connection to the Hebrew.

Use photos from the collection (pages 11-13, below) with general commands like:

להצביע על _____
 לגעת ב־ _____
 להרים את ה _____
 להוריד את ה _____

You might also do a command of **יוצר אור** and **בזרא חושך** by turning the lights on and off in the room, or use flashlights (students could be given their own little/cheap flashlights for this activity).

• **עושה שלום** (maker of peace)

REVIEW FROM **עושה שלום** IN JECC'S *ALEF-BET REVIEW*. Pantomime so that you get two children standing together holding hands (or doing something else "peace-like"). Say **שלום**.

Then, pantomime so that two children end up in a stance of fighting. Point to the two children and say **לא שלום**. [You could point to a couple of children and give them the command of **שלום** or **לא שלום** and have them get into a frozen action together.]

Then, point to a third child and say **עושה שלום**, indicating that s/he should try and fix the problem of the children who are not in a peaceful stance.

Check the photo collection (page 15, below) for assistance with this phrase.

• **הכל** (everything)

The word **כל** means "all". But when we say **הכל** we mean "everything." Collect groups of things with words that students know (e.g., books, candles,). Point to one and say its name in Hebrew. Point to all of them and say **כל הספרים**. Then exaggerate pointing to all of them and say **הכל**. In this blessing, when we use the word **הכל**, we're referring to EVERYTHING that God created. Use the photo in the collection (page 17, below) to help illustrate this.

• **ארץ (ארץ)** (the earth)

- Note that the correct Hebrew word is **ארץ**. But, when the word comes at the end of a verse (either in the Torah or at the end of a blessing), the accent shifts and so does the vowel sign under the Alef. The word **ארץ** and **עולם** are generally the same when referring to the earth or world. When we say **הארץ** we can mean "the earth" or "the ground."

Use photos (pages 19-23, below) and general commands to help you illustrate this word:

_____ להצביע על
 _____ לגעת ב
 _____ להרים את ה
 _____ להוריד את ה

• **מעשה בראשית** (acts of creation, or just “creation”)

- *This phrase will reappear later this year in the Kiddush, a blessing you will work with if the class is using Lasim Lev.*

Use a variety of nature pictures to illustrate this word. Some may be reused from previous lessons or found on the Internet – i.e., things that are considered created by God (sun, moon, sea, etc). See pages 25-31 (below) for photos of examples that are **לא מעשה בראשית**

• **אור חדש על ציון תאיר** (Shine a new light upon Zion ... or Jerusalem)

The students already know the first word. Introduce **חדש** by showing things that are new and old (**לא חדש**). **ציון** refers to Jerusalem – show photos of the city and call it both **ציון** and **ירושלים**.

Put the whole phrase together **אור חדש על ציון תאיר** – you could show photos of Jerusalem (see the collection on pages 33-37, below) with the light shining (make sure to say the phrase **אור חדש** for morning light) and the light not shining (for photos with either no light OR for light that’s not new **לא אור חדש** – for example, see page 39 for Jerusalem, but no morning light). OR, use the photos on pages 41-47 (below) that have “new light” (sunrise) shining over other cities and geographic locations and ask if these are **אור חדש על ציון תאיר**, or not. Have students indicate **כן** or **לא**.

ברוך אתה יי, אלהינו מלך העולם,

יוצר אור, ובורא חשך,

עשה שלום ובורא את הכל:

המאיר לארץ ולדורים עליה ברחמים,

ובטובו מחדש בכל יום תמיד מעשה בראשית:

מה רבו מעשיך יי, כלם בחכמה עשית,

מלאה הארץ קנייך:

תתברך יי אלהינו על שבח מעשה נדיך.

ועל מאורי אור שעשית ופארוך סלה.

אור חדש על ציון תאיר

ונזכה כלנו מהרה לאורו:

ברוך אתה יי יוצר המאורות



<http://tiny.cc/82o8qx>



<http://tiny.cc/wdp8qx>

שלום



<http://tiny.cc/lxs8qx>



<http://tiny.cc/lxs8qx>



<http://cdn1.listovative.com/wp-content/uploads/2014/09/f2.jpg>

הָאָרֶץ



https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/World#/media/File:Earth_Eastern_Hemisphere.jpg

הָאָרֶץ



https://pixabay.com/static/uploads/photo/2015/10/23/15/51/earth-1003188_960_720.jpg

Items not מְעֵשָׂה בְּרֵאשִׁית
(i.e., not something that God made at the time of creation)

לא מְעֵשָׂה בְּרֵאשִׁית



לא מעשה בראשית



לא מעשה בראשית



לא מעשה בראשית



אור קדש על ציון תאיר



אור קדש על ציון תאיר



אור קדש על ציון תאיר



לא - אור חֲדָשׁ עַל צִיּוֹן תְּאִיר



לא - אור קדש על ציון תאיר



Sunrise, Grand Canyon: [https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/2/24/East_Rim_Sunrise, Grand Canyon_9%3D15_\(21706487999\).jpg](https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/2/24/East_Rim_Sunrise,_Grand_Canyon_9%3D15_(21706487999).jpg)

לא - אור חדש על ציון תנאיר



Sunrise over New York https://c2.staticflickr.com/8/7769/16744560634_d5651b09fc_b.jpg

לא - אור חדש על ציון תאיר



Sunrise over Cleveland https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/a/a7/Cleveland_from_Superior_Viaduct.jpg

לא - אור חדש על ציון תנאיר



https://farm8.staticflickr.com/7441/16207624370_2a91db275d_o_d.jpg

