



INFORMATION, PROJECTS AND ACTIVITY GUIDE

FOR COMMEMORATING THE FIRST ANNIVERSARY OF THE SWORDS OF IRON WAR



OCTOBER 7TH

היחידה
שליחות חינוכית ציונית



הסוכנות היהודית
לארץ ישראל
THE JEWISH AGENCY
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THE ADELSON
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Information about the Swords of Iron War and the Jewish Agency's Work During the War



In these challenging times, it is important for us to provide you with reliable information about the war and the Jewish Agency's wartime activities. This includes reputable websites where you can find information to use in your shlichut role and in general. If any questions or needs arise while you are working in the field, please share them with the department team or school staff and we will be happy to help you find a solution.

The Jewish Agency's Work During the War

✧ [*The Jewish Agency's Impact Report*](#) - The Jewish Agency publishes an annual impact report summarizing its work over the previous year and its achievements in various fields of activity.

✧ [*The Fund for Victims of Terrorism*](#) - The Jewish Agency's Fund for Victims of Terrorism was a pioneer in offering help to victims of terrorism and war. The Fund first provides immediate assistance as a grant of approximately ₪ 4,000 to each family who was harmed by war or terrorist activity in Israel. It then offers additional assistance of up to ₪ 25,000, based on relevant criteria. The grants entail no obligations or requirements to repay the funds.

✧ [*"Atzma'imnikim" Fund*](#) - This new fund was established by the Jewish Agency and its partners to assist Israel Defense Forces reserve soldiers who are independent business owners. The financial assistance currently being provided by the State of Israel is not adequate. The Jewish Agency and its partners took responsibility by launching a project to support and strengthen owners of small independent businesses who were financially harmed by being called up for reserve military duty.

✧ [*The Connect Unit and Partnership2gether \(P2G\) Network*](#) - The P2G Network is part of the Connect Unit. During the war, they have been connecting partner communities around the world with localities in Israel that were damaged by the events of October 7. The communities abroad adopt Israeli communities and support them in various ways such as offering financial assistance and cooperative fundraising efforts to help rebuild the community and developing opportunities to promote the well-being of Israeli youth and offer them recreational opportunities, such as summer camps abroad. During the past year, about 1000 teenagers joined the campers2gether project, a cooperative project launched by a network of partnerships and Jewish communities abroad to provide a rehabilitative experience for youth who were harmed by the war and are suffering from its repercussions.



Information about the Swords of Iron War and the Jewish Agency's Work During the War



✧ **[The Jewish People Policy Institute \(JPPI\)](#)** - The JPPI is the Jewish Agency's think tank. It promotes strategic thinking and long-term planning that will contribute to the prosperity of the Jewish people and Jewish civilization. The JPPI is action-oriented and emphasizes identifying available alternatives, analyzing their impact on the future, and presenting policy recommendations and an operative order of priorities. To achieve this, the JPPI develops professional and strategic policies and examines the primary challenges to the future of the Jewish people. During the war, the JPPI has published numerous relevant studies, podcasts, articles, and other publications.

✧ **Initiatives of Jewish Agency emissaries.** As part of our wartime efforts, we would like to raise a banner announcing the work of our Shlichim (emissaries) around the world and the communities in which they work. We have heard about many initiatives and activities being conducted in shlichut missions in response to the war. We would love for you to share with us the various initiatives and projects, so that we can spread the word in preparation for the commemoration of the events of October 7. Please provide details using the following [link](#).

✧ **[MASA Israel Journey launched a webpage](#)** with educational resources for your use.

Sources of Information about the War

- **[The IDF website](#)** - This is the most reliable website for updates and information about the war. The IDF Spokesperson's Unit publishes information in multiple languages about the war and is active on all possible social networks. On this site, you can find various sources of information and materials, including briefings and videos.
- **[The Israel Ministry](#)** of Foreign Affairs website provides political, legal, and explanatory information about the war in multiple languages.
- **[The website of the Coordinator of Government Activities](#)** in the Territories provides information on humanitarian aid from Israel to Gaza.
- **[Institute for National Security Studies](#)**.
- **[Intelligence and Terrorism Information Center](#)**.
- **[Britain Israel Communications and Research Centre](#)**.



Information about the Swords of Iron War and the Jewish Agency's Work During the War



- **[The series Enemies](#)** on the Israeli public broadcasting corporation KAN tells the stories of some of Israel's greatest enemies. You can watch the most relevant episodes or all of them. The series includes episodes about Hassan Nasrallah, the Secretary General of Hezbollah, and Ali Khamenei, the Supreme Leader of Iran.
- KAN also broadcasts short informational videos about the issues related to the war, such as [who the Houthis are](#), [why Iran wants to wipe out Israel](#), [breaking down Hezbollah](#), and [the goal of Shiite supremacy](#).
- In addition to these videos, you can find information on the Internet about all the various relevant organizations and their goals with a simple Google search.
- **[JFNA' Site](#)**- content, suggested, speakers, activities and initiatives.
- **[Boundless](#)**- variety of materials for different age groups, including short videos, articles and educational materials.

Information about developing resilience and creating a safe environment: JREADY and the summer camp program.

Follow this [link to learn about resilience](#). The goal of this resource is to impart tools to increase resilience in times such as these and in general.



A Guide for Shlichim to Conduct Activities to Commemorate the Seventh of October



Background

On October 7, 2024, we will mark the anniversary of the “Black Shabbat” when the terrorist organization Hamas carried out a brutal attack on Israel and its sovereignty. Thousands of people were killed, and hundreds were taken hostage. This incident instigated the ongoing Swords of Iron War. Other countries from the Iranian axis have joined the attacks on Israel and against its citizens in Israel and abroad.

In addition to the events in Israel, the situation has stirred up the international arena, where the level of anti-Semitism and hatred of Jews, Israelis, and Zionists has increased significantly around the world in the past year. The events of October 7 changed the face of the situation in Israel and around the world and will continue to do so. It has had a wide impact not only on Israelis and Jews in Israel but on world Jewry, wherever they live.

Some have pointed out that these attacks and their consequences outside of Israel were based on hatred of Jews, countering the mistaken claim that they were based “only” on hatred of Israel and Zionism.

Every Jewish community is connected to Israel in its own way, holds different values, and perceives its relationship to these events in ways that are not necessarily the same as that of other Diaspora communities or Israelis.

The purpose of this guide is to help you prepare commemorations for the events of October 7 in your community in the best possible way so that community members can contribute and generate value. ‘Community’ also refers to the various organizations in which you may be active, such as Hillel, Jewish Federations, synagogues, youth movements, campus groups, etc.

Preparing for the Events and Gathering Information and Knowledge

- 1. Before the event, get to know the community, its core values, and the issues at its heart. These values will form the basis of the event to commemorate October 7.** For example, if a value of your community is “love of humanity” you may choose to address the lives and stories of people who were killed on October 7. If your community is characterized by Zionism and a strong connection to Israel, the focus may be on stories of heroism, fighting, courage, and Israel’s ability to recover, progress, and grow stronger.
- 2. What has already been done during the last year in light of the events of October 7? It is important to know what activities have taken place in your community since October 7.** What was successful? What didn’t work? What was the basis for success? Talk to community



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representatives and your supervisors. Talk to families in the community. Express interest in the various events. Contact a wide range of families from different backgrounds so you will be exposed to a variety of opinions that can help you. Be precise about what was successful and worked, and what would be novel and interesting for the community to experience or commemorate for this day.

- 3. Opportunities.** Find out the opportunities for events or activities in your area. Is there an interesting speaker in your area who knows about this period? Is there someone from the consulate or the community you would like to invite to speak? Is there a family with a personal story related to this day? Is a nearby community offering a lecture or event in which members of your community can participate? Consider these ideas and more.
- 4. Age appropriateness.** In addition to knowing your community and its values, it is important to identify the event's target audience. Is it for the whole community, including families and people of various ages? Is it for adolescents and young adults in the youth movement? Will there be multiple events geared toward different ages? Strive to adapt activities and conversations to the targeted age group(s) and their ability to be exposed to details and information, to hear horrific and difficult stories, to conduct a conversation about the events, etc.
- 5. What message will the event convey?** It is essential to understand the message of the event and what you want the community and audience to take away from the experience, such as Am Yisrael Chai, Israel will flourish again, or Israel needs you. Do you want to convey even broader values such as shared Jewish destiny, Jewish support for Jews worldwide, tikkun olam, etc.? Specify the message you want to convey and the feeling with which you want people to leave the event. Adapt the message to the community's values!
- 6. Be aware of this obstacle:** Israelis may be used to using graphic and detailed descriptions of horrific events, survivors' testimonies, and troubling photos and videos to connect to the events of October 7. However, in this way, we may be off target and lose our audience. The audience must know in advance what type of event they will be attending. Give a trigger warning if necessary. Many community members will not want to hear painful stories of the



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massacre or will not be able to relate to them. It is important to understand how to involve these community members as much as possible by coordinating with local community leaders. Also, remember that there are intercultural differences. What works in Israel will not necessarily work in Diaspora communities. For example, if we play music that, for Israelis, symbolizes national remembrance and mourning, listeners in the Diaspora community may have no idea what the songs are about.



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Planning the Event

The nature and content of the event or events should be determined in advance, in full collaboration with the relevant community entities, considering all the points raised in the previous section. It is essential to include as many men and women as possible in the event. Make sure that those involved in planning the event are not exclusively Israelis.

Below is a list of methods and tools that can be used to commemorate the anniversary of the events of October 7.

- ♦ Hold a memorial ceremony.
- ♦ Have someone give testimony in person (always stronger) or by video/Zoom.
- ♦ Show a film and hold a discussion about it.
- ♦ Plan a memorial activity to commemorate the life of someone who was killed.
- ♦ Hold a “Zikaron BaSalon” (informal memorial) event.
- ♦ Take a virtual trip to Israel and the sites of the massacre.
- ♦ Hold a joint study event with videos and articles for group discussions and plenary sessions.
- ♦ Hold a discussion about a given topic or value.
- ♦ Show an exhibition, such as that of [Emma Kapustiansky](#) (see #6 in the list of activities) and hold a discussion about it.
- ♦ Share stories of community members.

Activities that Encourage Active Participation

- » Plant a memorial garden.
- » Create commemorative art such as the Kalayniot project or “A Doll’s Wings” project.
- » Hold a fundraising event.
- » Hold a support rally.
- » Send flowers or wreaths to bereaved families in Israel.
- » Host a memorial marathon.
- » Hold community prayer.



A Guide for Shlichim to Conduct Activities to Commemorate the Seventh of October



Of course, there are many possibilities, and these are just a few examples. We invite you to share additional suggestions via the [following link](#).

In conclusion, the events should be planned for the community to which you were sent. An event should serve the community and its values and goals. We strongly recommend that, in addition, each individual should make his/her own arrangement to commemorate this day and mark it on a personal level in any way you wish. The event does not have to be only sad. It can be full of hope, joy, strength, and a celebration of life. We recommend that all the various aspects of life should be expressed in the event.

We hope that this guide will be useful as you prepare for the first anniversary of October 7. We invite you to consult with us at any stage and on any topic. You are invited to find more information on the Jewish Agency's Shlichut Institute [website](#).

Wishing you fruitful and meaningful events.

AM ISRAEL CHAI



Projects and Speakers Related to October 7, 2023



All of the projects below, as well as new ones, are uploaded regularly to the [Shlichut website](#).

#	Project Name and Brief Description	Project Focus
1	Ushpizin is a project from the artisan's workshop of Avia Halevi and Avi Eisen, emissaries with Ofek Israeli working in North America. They are developing a ready-to-print kit that can be hung in a sukkah, showing stories of civilian heroism related to the events of October 7. The exhibit will include information about heroic men and women, with questions for discussion and a call to action. They plan to produce it in several languages. The kit will be distributed by the Shlichut Institute.	A Sukkot project pertaining to civilian heroism
2	Shmini Atzeret is an educational activity from the Jewish Agency that focuses on raising awareness of the events of October 7. It includes lapel stickers (similar to the Yizkor lapel stickers) banners and posters for printing, and educational activities. The educational outline of the project, as well as suggested ceremony and activities can be found HERE . The stickers were sent to all Representatives and Partnerships that requested.	Raising awareness of the events of October 7
3	A Doll's Wings is a work of art made from toys, created in memory of the late Kutz family, who was murdered on October 7. Includes a suggested lesson plan . For more information see: https://www.livnatswings.org	Art project
4	Yahal's Light is a performance and discussion with the group White Noise. One of their members, Yahal, fell in Gaza in December 2023, while serving in military duty. The performance includes Yahal's brother Ido and stories about Yahal. The group plans to be in North America in September-October 2024. A song by the group Koolulam can be watched on YouTube . For more information about the project- HERE . Contact: Tomer: mrz10@gmail.com / +972546883839	Musical performance and discussion
5	Prof. Gil Troy is a historian, researcher, and author of books on Zionism and Israel-Diaspora relations. He will be in North America on the following dates: 11-12 September 2024, Montreal, Canada 12-16 September, available for offers 17-18 September, New York and in mid-November 2024 Gil Troy wrote The Essential Guidebook to October 7 and its Aftermath. Contact directly: Giltroy@gmail.com	Speaker



Projects and Speakers Related to October 7, 2023



#	Project Name and Brief Description	Project Focus
6	<p>Share the story of the Kapustiansky family of Kibbutz Re'im on October 7 and during its aftermath. The family members speak Hebrew, English, and Spanish fluently. Emma, the daughter, created an art exhibit that can be shown and discussed.</p> <p>Contact - anmereim@gmail.com</p> <p>First link Second link Third link Link to the exhibition Guidebook with activities about the exhibition</p>	<p>Testimony, discussion, and art exhibition</p>
7	<p>Testimonials- Delegations of witnesses can be brought if communities and organizations will cover the costs. We recommend working with one of the following organizations:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> The World Zionist Organization has sent dozens of witnesses to communities around the world to give testimony since the outbreak of the war, via Yahal Porat YahalP@wzo.org.il The Nova tribe community sends witnesses who survived the Nova party to tell their personal stories. Some survivors are already in the United States and can travel to various places. More information can be found HERE. <p>Contact is via Ron Segev +972-54-254-3611</p>	<p>Testimonies</p>
8	<p>Edut 710 is an independent, collaborative, and multidisciplinary project established to document, preserve, and make available to the general public testimonies of the survivors of the events of October 7. The website collected hundreds of testimonies. Dozens have subtitles translated into English and some have been translated into other languages. One planned aspect of the project is to offer suggestions for commemorative activities. The testimonies can be screened, and it is possible to have a discussion with volunteers from the project.</p> <p>A delegation to London is currently planned for early/mid-October. Other project volunteers are in Buenos Aires, Washington DC, and New York, and would be willing and pleased to give talks.</p> <p>It is also possible to bring delegations to give testimony, discussion, and activities if this is organized and the costs are covered.</p> <p>https://www.edut710.org</p> <p>More details about the project- HERE.</p> <p>Contact details: Adi Nachshon 054-9290060, edut@edut710.org</p>	<p>Videos and testimonies</p>



Projects and Speakers Related to October 7, 2023



#	Project Name and Brief Description	Project Focus
9	<p>Unbreakable is an exhibition created by the World Jewish Sports Museum that tells the story of the events of the last year through the world of sports. The exhibit covers athletes who were murdered on Black Shabbat, records achieved by Israeli athletes in recent years the great difficulty of being a Jewish athlete in these times.</p> <p>The exhibition is available for printing so emissaries can present it to their communities as a unique and fascinating activity to commemorate October 7.</p> <p>Please fill out this form to receive the files. Contact: Yoav Massalton yoavm@maccabi.org</p>	Exhibition
10	<p>The Kite Project #Kitesforfreedom. Members of Kibbutz Kfar Gaza held an annual event during which they flew kites with messages of peace and hope towards the Gaza Strip. This event had been scheduled to take place on October 7, 2023. After the events on October 7, the kibbutz members launched an online campaign for the children being held captive by Hamas in the Gaza Strip with a message of unity and hope. They invite everyone in Israel and around the world to take a picture of themselves with a kite and use the hashtag #kitesforfreedom to dedicate it to one of the hostages, calling for their return home as soon as possible.</p> <p>See the project's Instagram page</p>	Family art project
11	<p>Short videos from HaShomer HaTzair. The worldwide Jewish youth movement HaShomer HaTzair has produced a series of short videos about the positive activities reflecting the movement's values that they have conducted since October 7. The videos have subtitles available in English and Spanish. They warmly invite everyone to use these videos in commemorative events.</p> <p>Contact: mazkal@hashomer-hatzair.org</p>	Videos
12	<p>Screen the film Agadat Hurban (Legend of Destruction) and hold a discussion about it. Legend of Destruction was recently dubbed into English. It is also available with subtitles in English, French, Italian, and Arabic. Includes a public performance license in direct coordination with the copyright owner.</p> <p>A discussion about the film can be held or it can be integrated into an event.</p> <p>Link to the trailer. / Gidi Dar gididar@gmail.com</p>	Film screening and discussion



Projects and Speakers Related to October 7, 2023



#	Project Name and Brief Description	Project Focus
13	<p>Mi'yagon L'Niggun ceremony. The World Zionist Organization has designed a ceremony with passages for reading, songs, and stories in Hebrew and English, and Spanish.</p>	Ceremony
14	<p>KAN 360 project is a virtual museum documenting and commemorating the massacre of October 7, 2023. You can conduct an interactive tour including civilian and military areas where the massacre took place. The project was established to give visitors an in-depth experience, help them get to know the human stories, commemorate the events of October 7, and preserve its memory for future generations.</p> <p>Translation of the site into English began several weeks ago and it will be launched during the first week of October. In the first quarter of 2025, translation into Arabic, Spanish, French, and Russian will begin.</p> <p>Website Contact: Kan360 kan360@kan.org.il</p>	Virtual Museum
15	<p>SparkIL is a digital platform that combines Impact Lending with Israel Engagement, enabling anyone in the world to provide interest-free micro-loans to small businesses in Israel's geographic and social periphery. This unique approach enables lenders to directly impact the borrower's business and life, creating a powerful connection to him or her, and to the State of Israel. Especially now, amidst the challenges of the war in Israel and the resulting economic turmoil, lenders extend a supportive hand to small businesses suffering as a result of the war.</p> <p>General information Website For communities For educators</p>	Activism and Peoplehood
16	<p>The screening of the film #Nova - we received permission to screen the film #Nova, free of charge. All the details about the movie can be found HERE. In order to receive a link to the movie, you must fill in the following link. After sending the details, you will be sent a link to an mp4 file ready for screening. Please note, the film is suitable for ages 18 and over, and only after a discussion with the supervisor. The content is hard to watch!</p>	Movie screening



Projects and Speakers Related to October 7, 2023



#	Project Name and Brief Description	Project Focus
17	Share Gili's light- an initiative in memory of the late Gili Adar Z"K, who was murdered at the nature party in Re'im. Gili was a Shlichah of the Jewish Agency, with the summer camp track. The initiative was created by Ofek Moskovitz – a Jewish Agency' Shaliach, from the community track, who was a friend of Gili's. The initiative proposes to hold a dinner in memory of Gili, and there to talk about her life, to cook foods she loved, etc. All the information is HERE , and can be held at any time (despite the specific dates suggested in the booklet).	Experiential activity, involving cooking
18	Films and discussion from Go2films- an organization that offers films about October 7 and discussion with the filmmakers. Information in Hebrew can be found HERE , and information in English can be found HERE . Also, below are the dates for the screenings of the film WE WILL DANCE AGAIN in September-November, as well as suggestions for a discussion with A. Neshi Edomt and creators. Contact person for the above - Maya - outreach@go2films.com .	Film and discussion
19	Shoshke's postcard exhibition- We received an offer from the artist Zeev Engelmayer (Shoshke), who has devoted all his energy to creating daily postcards dedicated to the kidnapped and murdered people from the October 7 massacre, and drawn at the request of the families. The offer is for printing the drawing for an exhibition, with a of 150 NIS per unit (3750 NIS for the entire exhibition). You can contact Zeev directly - 0548044956, Engelmayer7@gmail.com . More details HERE .	Exhibition
20	A guide and proposal for a ceremony around 7/10 , from the Department of Zionist Enterprises in the World Zionist Organization - a guide for holding a ceremony , and suggestions for the structure of a ceremony and texts . Both documents are in English.	Ceremony
21	The Civil Advocacy Center has produced a powerful book featuring photos and stories from the Gaza envelope . Photographers Paulina Patimer and Adar Eyal documented these moments, often under fire, capturing personal stories from families of hostages, victims, and survivors. The book was created by volunteers, and all proceeds are donated to support advocacy efforts and the fight against antisemitism worldwide. Additionally, 20 of the most impactful images are now featured in a traveling exhibition across Israel. As October 7th approaches, our photographers are heading on a U.S. advocacy tour. We invite you to book them as guest speakers, host the exhibition, or organize a book sale in your community. Contact us for more details - Daphna: Daphnab@israelispirit.org https://wa.me/972522382563	Exhibition and talk



Activities Related to the Swords of Iron War for a Wide Range of Target Audiences and Age Groups

The Shlichut Institute



War Hero Cards Activity

Target audience: Diverse

Objectives:

- Introducing stories of heroism from the war
- Commemoration and remembrance
- Connection to Israeli values and spirit

Process

Method 1: Sharing

Ask participants if they have heard stories of heroism related to October 7. Go around the room sharing stories and examples. If no stories come up, activity facilitators can share stories of heroism that have been prepared in advance.

Method 2: Research

Ask each participant to find another story of heroism that they had not yet heard. It does not have to be related to an Israeli soldier. It could involve a citizen or a local person they know who acted bravely in reaction to the events of October 7. For example, it could be a Hillel member who opposed anti-Zionist demonstrations at a nearby university, a young person who organized a rally supporting Israel and raised funds, etc. Participants should look for stories they connect with. Recommendation: To find stories, use the book *One Day in October*, or look on the internet and websites with testimonials such as Edut 710, etc.

Method 3: Doing/Creating

Create “hero cards,” in any style you choose.

1. Hand out construction paper pre-cut to the size of the cards you want to make. Participants will create cards about individual heroes that they choose. This activity is appropriate for children. The cards can have a drawing on one side of the card with information on the other.
2. Cards can be designed using a graphic design program such as Canava and printed as a set.
3. Print the cards with the heroes’ pictures on one side and the information about them on the other.
4. Provide pre-cut or purchased cards from card stock and a range of art materials that participants can choose from. Have a printer available to print the cards during the activity.



Activities Related to the Swords of Iron War for a Wide Range of Target Audiences and Age Groups

The Shlichut Institute

At this stage, each participant should design two or more hero cards, designed as follows:
Side A - Drawing or photograph of the hero with his/her name and a message or quote.
Side B - Information about the hero including name, background information, values, and a story of heroism.

Summarizing the Activity

After designing the cards, participants can exchange cards or keep the ones they made. Everyone should leave with two cards that they can pass on to others. They can give the cards to anyone they choose and for any reason. The goal is to pass them along in conjunction with an act of goodness that expresses a value held by that hero. Alternatively, they can pass along the cards after telling that hero's story. In this way, we create a memory chain of heroes from October 7.

After explaining the instructions, summarize the activity with the group:

- How was it for you to engage with the various heroes' stories?
- How did you feel when making the hero cards?
- Did you exchange or pass along your cards?
- What did you find valuable in the process of exchanging these cards?
- Is there anything you want to say or share about the experience?
- Add additional questions appropriate for the group.



Activities Related to the Swords of Iron War for a Wide Range of Target Audiences and Age Groups

The Shlichut Institute



Hackathon for October 7

Target audience: All ages

Objectives:

- Using communal wisdom to create something new.
- Addressing content related to October 7.
- Implementing a project, idea, or initiative.

Background

A hackathon is a stand-alone activity, at the center of which is commemoration and engagement with the events of October 7. A hackathon is beneficial because it is an ongoing activity that motivates action and enables multiple ideas and suggestions for further activities related to the subject. Below is a short guide to creating your own hackathon.

Process

Suggested framework for holding a hackathon:

1. Goal setting

- Set clear goals for the hackathon, such as creating commemorative projects, strengthening the community, raising awareness, etc.
- Define the desired outputs, such as an app or website, exhibition, community event, activity, etc.

2. Logistics

- Choose a suitable location.
- Set the date and duration of the event - usually between 24 and 48 hours.
- Prepare technical infrastructures - internet, electricity, computers.
- Arrange for refreshments and drinks for participants.

3. Recruiting participants

- Publicize the event in the community and on social media.
- Invite relevant professionals such as designers, educators, and psychologists.
- Involve representatives from bereaved families or victims of terrorism, if this is appropriate for your goals.

4. Structure of the hackathon

- Introduction: Explain the goals of the event and present the topic.
- Create diverse teams.



Activities Related to the Swords of Iron War for a Wide Range of Target Audiences and Age Groups

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- Sessions of intensive work.
- Short breaks for refreshment and networking.
- Mentoring from professionals.

5. Judging and evaluation

- Define criteria for evaluating the projects.
- Select a diverse team of judges.
- Provide constructive feedback to all teams.

6. Continuation

- Plan how to implement the selected projects.
- Create a platform for ongoing cooperation between the participants.

Primary requirements:

- Budget for organizing the event
- Dedicated organizing team
- Suitable place with appropriate technical infrastructure
- Partners and supporters such as the municipality or local social organizations
- Professional mentors and judges
- Technical equipment: computers, projectors
- Information sources and creative materials

This subject must be approached with sensitivity and respect, taking into account the feelings of the participants and the community. In addition, it is important to invite dignitaries to attend the event, and perhaps even families.



Activities Related to the Swords of Iron War for a Wide Range of Target Audiences and Age Groups

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October 7 Through Stories for Children

Target audience: children / young children

Objectives:

- Commemorating the events of October 7 with young children in an age-appropriate way.
- Dealing with feelings and experiences and familiarizing the children with the events.

Process:

Method: Storytelling

Read one or more of the stories in the book [A War of Heroes](#), which tells heroic stories from the war in a way that is appropriate for children.

Ask questions relevant to the story such as:

- » What is the story about?
- » Did you like the story?
- » Who is your favorite character in the story? Why?
- » If you were a character in a story, who would you want to be?
- » Do you know a similar story, real or fictional?
- » What do you think is the moral of the story?

Summary and Engagement with October 7

Frame the story for the children: “The story we just heard is one of many stories of children and adults in Israel who have been at war since October 7. Does anyone know what happened on October 7?”

After asking this question and giving them time to answer, decide whether there was anything irrelevant or incompatible in their responses and provide context or mediation as necessary.

“On October 7, a war started in the State of Israel. Some bad people from a terrorist organization hurt people. Fortunately, the brave citizens of Israel and the Israel Defense Forces were able to stop the attack. There is still a war in Israel, but thanks to high-tech systems like the Iron Dome, life in Israel is continuing. Am Yisrael Chai!”

The discussion and information can be adapted according to the framework and what is appropriate for the ages of the children you are working with.



Activities Related to the Swords of Iron War for a Wide Range of Target Audiences and Age Groups

The Shlichut Institute



The 3-Ds of Antisemitism: Activity for identifying and addressing antisemitism

Target audience: Middle school and older, may be adapted according to age.

Objectives:

- Become familiar with the 3 Ds of antisemitism test.
- Deepen participants' understanding of how the 3 D's have been manifested since the attack on October 7.

Process:

Introduction (15 minutes). Present a brief explanation of [Natan Sharansky's 3 D's test](#): demonization, double standards, and delegitimization.

Give an in-depth explanation with examples (30 minutes).

*You can show a previously prepared presentation or explain it on your own, depending on your capabilities and presentation opportunities.

A. Demonization

Definition: Attributing demonic or evil qualities to the Jews or the State of Israel.

Examples:

1. Comparing Israel or Jews to Nazis.
2. Accusing Jews of secretly controlling the world economy.
3. Describing Israel as a country that commits systematic genocide.

B. Double standards

Definition: Using different standards to judge the behavior of Jews or Israel than are applied to others.

Examples:

1. Demanding that Israel resolve its conflicts peacefully while accepting the use of force by other countries.
2. Harsh criticism of certain Israeli policies, while ignoring similar or more serious violations in other countries.
3. Requiring Jewish organizations to renounce Israel while having no similar requirement for other ethnic or religious groups.



Activities Related to the Swords of Iron War for a Wide Range of Target Audiences and Age Groups

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C. Delegitimization:

Definition: [Denying the Jewish people's right to self-determination or denying the legitimacy of the existence of the State of Israel.](#)

Examples:

1. Claiming that Israel is an inherently racist country.
2. Calling for the elimination of the State of Israel.
3. Denying the historical connection of the Jews to the Land of Israel.

Group discussion (25 minutes)

Divide participants into three groups, each focusing on one of the 3 D's.

Task: Think of examples from contemporary reality and discuss their implications. You can focus on things that have been experienced in your community or a nearby campus or examples that have been heard from friends or family.

Present the results of the discussions (15 minutes)

Each group will briefly share what came up in their discussion.

Identification exercise (25 minutes)

Present scenarios and statements for analysis, for example:

- "Israel is an apartheid state."
- "Jews control the world media."
- "Israel should cease to exist as a Jewish state."
- "Israel violates the human rights of the Palestinians."

Ask participants to identify whether each example is antisemitism according to the 3 D's test and to give reasons.

Discuss the limits of the test (15 minutes)

- Discussion: When does criticism of Israel's policies become antisemitism?
- Examine borderline cases, such as criticism of settlements or government policies.

Simulation (20 minutes)

Sample scenario: A student organization at a local university has organized an "Apartheid Week" focused on Israel.



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Participants will be asked to analyze the scenario according to the 3 D's test, with a discussion of effective ways to respond to and deal with the situation.

Summary (15 minutes)

- Review the main points of the 3 D's test.
- Discuss the advantages and disadvantages of the test.
- Talk about ways to use this test in daily life.

Additional notes:

It is important to emphasize that not all criticism of Israel is antisemitic and that this test was designed to identify latent antisemitism. Encourage a balanced and sensitive discussion while recognizing the complexity of the issue. The examples and scenarios can be adapted to the target audience and its cultural background.



Activities Related to the Swords of Iron War for a Wide Range of Target Audiences and Age Groups

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Activity for Processing Emotions Related to the Events of October 7

Target audience: Diverse, with adaptation of the discussion.

Objectives:

- Processing personal emotional experiences in the wake of the events of October 7.
- Discussion about the emotions among people in the group or community.
- Recalling and commemorating the events of October 7.

Process:

Introduction (10 minutes)

Create an open atmosphere and explain the purpose of the activity: to share and process emotional experiences since October 7. Emphasize the importance of listening and respecting the different experiences of each participant.

Opening round with emotion cards (20 minutes)

- Spread “emotion cards” in the center of the circle. You can buy cards or make cards or pages with various emotions written on them.
- Each participant will choose 2-3 cards that represent the emotions they experienced in the last year related to the Swords of Iron War.
- Go around the group, enabling each participant to share why they chose these cards.

Emotions on the cards may include: joy, sadness, anger, fear, surprise, disgust, love, hate, jealousy, pride, shame, guilt, frustration, excitement, anxiety, relief, confusion, hope, despair, disappointment, satisfaction, loneliness, longing, calm, stress, empathy, impatience, indifference, curiosity, comfort, compassion, enthusiasm, concern, astonishment, bitterness, admiration, confidence, helplessness, nervousness, optimism.

Sharing in pairs cards with pictures or symbols of emotions (25 minutes)

- Spread out the picture or symbol cards. Again, you can use ready-made kits like “Points of You” (POY) or print photos and symbols that represent the various emotions.
- Each participant will choose a picture that represents a challenge or a struggle they have experienced in relation to the events of October 7.
- In pairs, share with each other what image each person chose and its meaning for them.



Activities Related to the Swords of Iron War for a Wide Range of Target Audiences and Age Groups

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Reflective writing (15 minutes)

Each participant will write about:

1. What have I learned about myself during this time?
2. What strength or resource did I discover in myself?
3. What would I want to say to my pre-October 7 self?

Group Sharing (30 minutes)

With the whole group, participants who wish to do so can share one insight from the reflective writing exercise. Encourage discussion on commonalities and differences among their experiences.

Creating a “Wall of Hope” (20 minutes)

On a large piece of construction paper, each participant will write or draw something that gives them hope or the strength to continue. With prior agreement, a display space can be allocated in the Jewish Community Center or other public area displaying their “graffiti of hope.”

Conclusion (10 minutes)

Summarize the main insights that emerged in the activity. Remind the participants of the importance of mutual support and ongoing emotional processing.

Comments to the facilitator:

- Show sensitivity regarding participants’ needs. If a difficulty arises, try to address it, and apply your listening skills.
- Encourage an atmosphere of acceptance and respect for all the experiences and feelings that arise.
- Prepare information about support resources for those who need it.



Activities Related to the Swords of Iron War for a Wide Range of Target Audiences and Age Groups

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October 7: A Image of the Future

Target audience: Children and youth; can be adapted for adults.

Objectives:

- To create a positive and hopeful discourse about Israel's future.
- Focus on the potential changes in Israel's internal and external relations, and how the events of October 7 could be a turning point.

Process:

Introduction and presenting the topic (10 minutes)

- The activity facilitator will begin with a discussion of the events of October 7 and their impacts. Emphasize the resilience and ability of the people of Israel to overcome difficulties and to continue to strive for a better future.
- Explain the purpose of the activity to participants: to dream and come up with ideas of what Israel might look like in the future, with a focus on maintaining positivity, cooperation, and prosperity.

Group discussion (20 minutes)

Divide participants into small groups of 4-5 people. Ask them to discuss the following questions:

- How do you see Israel in 10, 20, or 50 years?
- How do you think the events of October 7 will affect the country in the long term?
- How will Israel's relations with countries around the world and with Diaspora Jewry improve or change, in your opinion?
- What values and beliefs do you think will lead Israeli society in the future? What values and beliefs do you think should lead it?

Creation (30 minutes)

Each group will do a creative work that represents their vision of Israel's future. This can be a cooperative painting on a large canvas, a mural on a wall, a poem, a play, a presentation, or any other form of expression chosen by the facilitator or participants.



Activities Related to the Swords of Iron War for a Wide Range of Target Audiences and Age Groups

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Sharing and concluding discussion (20 minutes)

After finishing the creative work, each group will present their product to the other participants and explain the ideas behind it. Gather all the participants together for a concluding discussion, in which they can share insights and ideas that arose during the activity. Write on a whiteboard the ideas that come up during the discussion and highlight key issues that were mentioned.

Summary and inspiration (10 minutes)

End the activity with an inspiring message about the power of dreams and ambitions to shape the future. Ask participants to continue thinking about how they personally can contribute to the realization of this positive vision for Israel.

Suggestions for the facilitator:

- Maintain a positive and inclusive atmosphere throughout the activity.
- Encourage participants to think creatively and openly.
- Try to maintain a respectful and considerate discourse even when sensitive topics arise.



Activities Related to the Swords of Iron War for a Wide Range of Target Audiences and Age Groups

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Idea Bank for Additional Activities Dealing with October 7

- “Taste of Memories” cooking competition with favorite recipes of people who were killed or fell in battle.
- Storytime with stories or books that were loved by people who were killed or fell in battle.
- “We will dance again” – hold a community party in memory of those killed at the Nova festival.
- A nation of superheroes - IDF, the People's Army.
- Tour of the affected areas using Google Maps.
- Jewish values expressed on October 7 and during the war.

If you have developed another activity on the topic of October 7 or used one of the ideas in this idea bank, we would like you to share it with us via the educational supervisor in the various departments. Of course, you are also welcome to send us feedback on the activity and requests for help with the content, as needed.

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WE WILL *Dance again*



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