



The initial steps in Jewish Education

a seminar for
Jewish Kindergarten Principals
Prague, 19- 21 April 2015

Sunday , 19th April

3.00 **Welcome and introductions** – who we are, where we work – participants share stories and photos of where they work and list their 3 top key issues.
By Mariano Schlimovich, Mario Izcovich and Nic Abery.

4.00 **Interactive reading and children's literacy** –by Sharon Porat

There is no substitution for interactive reading in terms of enhancing all spheres of the child's development: emotional, social, emotional, and cognitive development. It is key for jumpstarting young children's literacy skills and expanding their vocabulary, and in addition interactive reading enhances a child's ability to empathize, helps ready the child for school and strengthens the parent-child bond in the process.

What does Interactive Reading include? Methods and tips for teachers and parents.

5.30 Coffee break

5.45 **Building a Jewish kindergarten environment** by Sharon Porat

Children and their families have various experiences and exposure to Jewish tradition both within the home and within community settings (Jewish community centers, synagogues, schools, etc.). The kindergarten is the starting point for a child's formal education, and has the opportunity to bring children close to the Jewish culture and tradition while investing in their development. Young children learn through play, music, reading, and creating. They learn the world by actively experiencing it with their different senses. Jewish themes can be introduced in the kindergarten by enhancing the classroom environment and activities. In addition, parent-child activities within kindergartens can both connect parents with Jewish tradition and strengthen the parent-child bond.

7.30 Dinner



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8.45 **Making games: a practical session** to make and /or share a game to take back to your kindergarten.

Monday 20th April

8.30 – Departure to Lauder School

9.00 **Visit to the Lauder Kindergarten.** Presentation by Petr Karas and Gafna Vanova

10.30 – **Discussion** – what did we see, what did we learn?
What makes this a Jewish environment? Mariano Schlimovich

11.30 **Creating and sharing ideas to teach Shavuot by Nic Abery**

13.00 Lunch @ Lauder School

14.15 **Parents and families in children's' learning** - Marian Ziss

15.45 Coffee Break

16.00 – **Main dilemmas at Jewish kindergartens: Thinking out of the box**
By Mario Izcovich

17.30 Return to Hotel

19.30 Dinner

Tuesday, April 21st

8.45 **Best practices exchange** by Nic Abery

10.00 **Visit to Bejahad Kindergarten**



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11.30 – Summary – planning ahead for Arachim in November – what more do we want to learn, teach and share ? By Mario Izcovich & Mariano Schlimovich

12.30 Wrap Up & Conclusions



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