



for the Early Childhood & Primary School Classroom

A weekly idea from SAJES Dept. of Early Childhood Education

Week of April 27 – May 2, 2008 / Nisan 22- 27, 5768

### Jewish Symbols 24/7 Flag of Israel & Hatikva – Israeli National Anthem

The flag of The State of Israel includes two blue stripes on white background with a Shield or Star of David (in Hebrew: Magen David) in the center. This design was first displayed in Rishon-LeZion in 1885 and was also used at the First Zionist Congress in 1897. But it was an immigrant to America that designed the flag as we now know it. To learn the amazing story of Morris Harris click on this link: [The Flag Of Israel](#)

The flag was inspired by the tallit (the prayer shawl with blue stripes worn by Jews during prayer) as a symbol. The Star of David is a common symbol of the People of Israel from Biblical times. The flag was adopted officially on October 28, 1948 (25 Tishre, 5709) by the Speaker of the Provisional Council of State.

The title of the Israeli national anthem, HATIKVA, means "The Hope." It was written by Naftali Herz Imber (1856-1909), who moved to Palestine in 1882 from Galicia. The melody was arranged by Samuel Cohen, an immigrant from Moldavia, from a musical theme that is partly based on a Scandinavian folk song. Hatikva expresses the hope of the Jewish people, that they would someday return to the land of their forefathers as prophesied in the Hebrew Bible. The Jewish people were exiled from Israel in 70 C.E. by the Roman army led by Titus who destroyed the Temple in Jerusalem. During the two thousand years of exile, the Jewish people said special daily prayers for return to Israel while facing the East in the direction of Jerusalem. The Israeli Embassy early childhood website has the words in English, Hebrew and transliterated, as well as an audio version of Hatika you can listen to. Click on: <http://www.israelemb.org/kids/hatikva.html>

### Multi-Intelligence Integration Ideas

★ Stamps can be a wonderful way to allow children to explore new ideas. By showing some examples of stamps that have Israeli flags (see link below for some beautiful samples) on them, children can create their own flag stamp. If they are done on labels, they can be peeled and stuck on envelopes. They could be used for in-classroom letters to be sent to Israel during imagination play. For a great website of with many stamp ideas click on: [Natflag](#)



★ Although the children might not be able to learn all the words to Hatikva, hearing it can be opportunity to begin to teach the recognition of the words. There are many recording that can be played while the children, dance, move and play instruments simultaneously.

★ You can create a wonderful math and spatial activity by taking the geometric shapes that are in the flag and having the children design a flag using them (possibility of 6 rectangles and 2 triangles)

### HEBREW VOCABULARY

דגל / מנופף / ME-NO-FAF DE-GEL / FLAG WAYER

דגל / DE-GEL / FLAG

תקווה / TIK-VA / HOPE

*The Symbol: the outward expression of the inward signification-  
should above all charm the senses by and for itself. Heine*

For further information:

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