

# Ivrit Safa Kasha

## Goals:

1. The chanichim will understand the importance of our own language – hebrew.
2. The chanichim will understand the importance of renewing the hebrew language.
3. The chanichim will get to know the work of Eliezer Ben-Yehuda.

## La'Madrich/a (for the madricha/a)

The existence of the hebrew language and the daily use of it is obvious for us. The process of renewing the language and implementing speaking it in Israel was not a simple process, and was not obvious. This process is a meaningful and inseparable part of the forming of the Israeli society and it becoming one society, as part of the attempt to bridge the gap between the different social groups that gathered in Israel. Thus, its important the chanichim will know Eliezer Ben-Yehuda and his work – revitalizing the Hebrew language against all of the opposition it had. When we approach discussing the hebrew language with our chanichim, it's important to relate too the importance of the existence of a joint language for a people.

the peula is actually constructed of two parts. It's possible to split the peula into 2, and run each part separately, or choose only one of the two parts that fits your kvutseh more.

## Tziud:

Cards for the grouplets – Tower of Babel (appendix A), Eliezer Ben-Yehuda costume (old jacket, beard, glasses, and tall tophat made from paper), card for the skirts (appendix b), 2 posters with correct words, cards with "incorrect" words.

## Methods:

1. Opening game.

### Part A: Tower of Babel

2. **Say:** that this next task is going to be difficult, and you, the madrichim, will be the judges in it, and you will judge severely.
3. Split the chanichim into 3 grouplets, each group gets a different language, the the chanichim in the first group can only speak in words that start with the letters A, B,C, D, E, the second group can only talk in words that start with letters F, G, H, I, J and so on (see appendix A), the goal of all of the groups is to build the tallest tower together with stuff they find around the ken/camp.
4. Discussion:
  - Were you able to understand each other?

- What made building the tower hard?
- What happened between you when you couldn't understand each other? (fighting, confusion..)
- What is the hardship that is created when there is no common language?
- What languages do your grandparents speak?
- What languages were spoken in Israel when it was just beginning and people were making aliyah?
- Write down all of the languages on a poster.
- How do you think they got along? How did they communicate?

### **La'Madrach/a**

when there is no language usually there is confusion and anger between the people because they can't understand each other. When there isn't a common language, distance between people is kept and it's hard to get closer to each other because there is no way to understand. When we want to have a society that has a connection between people there needs to be a common language between everyone so that they can speak to everyone, explain things to each other and be friends.

When the first Olim came to Israel there wasn't a common language yet – some spoke yiddish, some spoke arabic, some spoke turkish and some spoke spanish. It was very hard to communicate with each other and that's why different groups were formed in the society that didn't have a connection with other groups.

### **Part B: Eliezer Ben-Yehuda**

5. To get the chanichim in the right atmosphere, dress up or ask one of the other madrichim to dress up as Eliezer Ben-Yehuda who will tell the chanichim who he is, where he came from, and why he did what he did. And ask them to help him regenerate the hebrew language.

### **La'Madrach**

Eliezer Ben-yehuda was born in Lithuania in 1858 and made aliyah at the age of 23. One of his main goals was to renew the hebrew language so that in the land of Israel the jews will only speak hebrew. Eliezer believed that only if there is a common language for all jews there can be a new society built in the Israel. Now we will try to get to know his character and his work.

6. Split the chanichim into 3 groups and give each group one of the cards in appendix b. each group needs to make a skit according to the part they got.
  - Walk around the chanichim and help them if needed.
7. Relay race:

- Split the chanichim into 2 groups and have a relay race between them, each time a chanich from each group will get a word, and they need to run to the groups poster and match the word to the right definition for instance, the poster will say towel, skateboard and zipper, and the first chanich will get the word Galgeshet and will have to stick it next to the skateboard.
  - The list of words: Galgeshet = Skateboard, Sagror/Rochsan = Zipper, Alontit/Magevet = Towel, Tuzig=Picnic, Afifit = Wafer, Chavitit = Pancake, Kruchit = Schtroudele (or the @ symbol), Divkit/Madbeka = Sticker
  - It's recommended to add words for the daily lives of chanichim so they hear what they are in correct hebrew.
8. Say: now, after we understand the importance of a common language, we in this group can also make up our own language.
  9. Ask the chanichim to make up 3 words that will be special just for the kvutsah.
  10. Have a vote between all of the words the chanichim suggested and choose the 3.
  11. **Sikkum: (sum up in your own words).**

In this peula we saw that the jewish people didn't always have a common language. Some part of the rejuvenation of the jewish people and creating the jewish society in Israel was renewing the hebrew language. To create one society, we need the way to communicate with each other, without renewing the hebrew language the Israeli society couldn't have grown. Eliezer Ben-yehuda is the person who started this enterprise but if other people wouldn't have supported him and fought for talking hebrew like the Chalutzim, this enterprise could hve failed.

**Aleh Ve'Hagshem!**