

“My Israel is beautiful and flourishing”

Goals:

1. The chanichim will know what the map of Israel looks like.
2. The chanichim will know different places in Israel and their characteristics.
3. The chanichim will know different kinds of cities and towns in Israel.
4. The chanichim will think and decide what they like about Israel

La'Madrich/a (for the madrich/a)

one of the main things that tie a person to their country is the unmediated connection with it's scenery, culture and citizens. Most of our chanichim were born in this country but still most likely do not know Israel's map, (and even if they do probably not well) and for that reason getting to know the map has much significance.

In this peula we wish to strengthen and deepen the feeling of connection and belonging between the chanichim and israel.

Tziud:

a big map of israel, notes with names of places, buckets, straws, riddle, a big bowl (for apple bobbing), apples, disposable gloves, milk (to those who want to put in extra effort), watermelon or some other fruit for the eating competition, broomstick, 2 jerry cans filled with juice, poster with the words to the song “My Israel” + the song itself, a chasidic song, big pieces of butcher paper, markers (texters), bucket hat.

Methods:

1. Opening game:
 - Billy Billy Bop Bop
 - Tickle Scattergories (Eretz Ir Digdugim) – cities in Israel.
2. The “Beautiful Israel” competition:

hang a huge map of Israel on the wall (it's possible to draw if you don't have a real map). Split the kvutseh into 2-3 grouplets.

Each time, give the chanichim a description of a place, the chanichim should try to guess what tht place is. After they discover what place it is, they need to complete a task that has to do with that place. The winning grouplet get a note with the place's name and needs to stick in in the correct place on the map. The goal is to win as many notes as possible. The winning group gets bucket hat.

Place	Basic description	Task	Tziud
Mount Hermon	The coldest place in Israel, it snows there mainly in the winter. The only place in Israel where you can ski...	Dress one chanich with as many clothes as possible so he's not coldddd....	
The Kinneret (Sea of galillee)	The biggest resevoir of fresh water Israel has. The only sea in Israel where you can drink the water.	Relay race with water – each group gets a straw and 2 buckes one full of water and one empty. The group must transfer as much water as possible in the given time using only the drinking straw. (the straw can be replaces with a sponge.	2 buckets, 2 straws, 2 jerry cans filled with water.
Tel Aviv	The first hebrew city – this is not the first city in Israel, but the first city that was founded when aliyah was renewed after 2000 years of exile, and therefor is called the first hebrew city.	A riddle in mirror code, a is z, and so on.	A riddle page for each group, a guide for the code.
Jerusalem	The holy city, the capital of Israel – the place where all of the country's institutes are – the Knesset, the supreme court, the prime minister's house.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Chasidic dance off – each group must dance an impressive chasidic dance. 2. Jerusalem song survival 3. Extract as many words from the word Jerusalem as possible. 	Papers, pens, a chasidic song and a way to play it.
Haifa	A city where jews and arabs leave in peace and co-existence. It has amazing bahai gardens. It's located on the Carmel ridge. It's the only city in Israel that has a subway! (underground train)	Since we are talking about co-existence we'll play a non competitive game of all of the groups together – quick knock . everybody sits on the foor and puts their hand below the head of the people on his sides, the goal is to manage to pass	

		a quick knock, going around the circle, each person pounds with their hand on the floor. Play a few rounds until you manage to do it quickly and without getting confused.	
Be'er Sheva	The capital of the Negev – the biggest city in the Negev.	Camel race: split the group into trios, each trio must arrange itself as a camel and then race, the first column that finishes – wins!	
Eilat	The most southern city in Israel, a vacation city. A city on the coast of the red sea. Everybody goes there to dive.	Diving contest – fill a big bowl with water and apples in the center each group sends a representative to dive into the bowl with his head and get the apple. Measure the times and see which group was the fastest, it can be funny to give the children goggles.	Big bowl with water, apples.
Kibbutz Yiron (Northern Border)	Agricultural and socialist type of settlement, people live in it together and work together and share food and money. In most of these places people work in agriculture.	Milking – take a latex glove and fill it with milk or water. Make a small hole with a pin in one of the fingers, each child needs to “milk” the glove, the first group to finish milking wins. Crazy cow/chicken – like crazy monkey only with a cow/chicken costume (follow the leader..) Collecting seeds – scatter popcorn seeds in one throw of hand, the group that collects the most seeds in the allotted time wins.	
Hadera	A city in the center of the country that has	Power struggle – arm wrestling, each group	

	the biggest power plant in Israel next to it, the power plant makes electricity to a lot of homes in Israel.	sends a strong representative and we hold an arm wrestling tournament (or put lotion on their hands for hilarious results)	
Dead Sea	This is the lowest place in Israel and in the world. There is a sea there but no animal can live in it. It's always hot there but you don't sweat.	Dead sea limbo – each group send a person for a limbo contest.	Broomstick Cool limbo music
Moshav Hetzba	This type of settlement is agricultural. Usually it's relatively small places where everyone who live there practices agriculture in their own private "farm" this one is known for their excellent watermelons.	We are going to hold a watermelon eating contest with hands behind their back, each group sends one chanich and they must eat a big piece of watermelon and try to finish first. If there is no watermelon it's possible to do with a different fruit.	Watermelon or some other fruit.

3. Announce the winning group and ask the chanichim to sit in a circle.
4. Go around and have each chanich say what is their favorite part of Israel and tell about an interesting experience that has to do with that place.
5. Hang a poster with the song – "My beautiful Israel is pretty and is flourishing" (Appendix A) there are 3 options on how to proceed:
 - i. Learn how to sing it and do so very loudly.
 - ii. Split the group into smaller groups or ask them to return to the groups from the previous method, let each group make a little skit about a verse from the song.
 - iii. You can also video the chanichim with a camera, make a music video of the kvutseh. And invite the parents for a special screening of the video.
6. **Sikkum:** (sum up in your own words)

In the peula today we learned that we have a very special country called Israel that is full of cultures, all sorts of types of places people live in, and different customs. I hope you remember the place we saw on the map, so in the future if you visit Israel, you will know where you are.

Aleh Ve'Hagshem!

My Israel

Melody and lyrics: Datya Bendor.

My Israel is pretty and is
flourishing
Who built it, and who planted
trees?
All of us together!
I built a house, in Eretz Yisrael -
So we have a country
And we have a house!
In the land of Israel!

My Israel is pretty and is
flourishing
Who built it, and who planted
trees?
All of us together!
I planted a tree, in Eretz Yisrael –
So we have a country
And we have a house,
And we have a tree,
In the land of Israel!

My Israel is pretty and is
flourishing
Who built it, and who planted
trees?
All of us together!
I paved a road, in Eretz Yisrael –
So we have a country
And we have a house,
And we have a tree,
And we have a road,
In the land of Israel!

My Israel is pretty and is
flourishing

Who built it, and who planted
trees?
All of us together!
I built a bridge, In Eretz Yisrael –
So we have a country
And we have a house,
And we have a tree,
And we have a road,
And we have a bridge,
In the land of Israel!

My Israel is pretty and is
flourishing
Who built it, and who planted
trees?
All of us together!
I wrote a song, in the Eretz
Yisrael -
So we have a country
And we have a house,
And we have a tree,
And we have a road,
And we have a bridge,
And we have song –
In the land of Israel!

Eretz Yisrael Sheli

Datya Ben-dor

Eretz Yisrael sheli yafa vegam porachat
Mi bana vemi nata?
Kulanu beyachad!
Ani baniti bayit be'erezt yisrael
az yesh lanu eretz
ve'yesh lanu bayit, be'erezt yisrael.

Eretz Yisrael sheli yafa vegam porachat
Mi bana vemi nata?
Kulanu beyachad!
Ani natati etz be'erezt yisrael -
az yesh lanu eretz
ve'yesh lanu bayit,
ve'yesh lanu etz,
be'erezt yisrael.

Eretz Yisrael sheli yafa vegam porachat
Mi bana vemi nata?
Kulanu beyachad!
Ani salalti kvish be'erezt yisrael -
az yesh lanu eretz

ve'yesh lanu bayit,
ve'yesh lanu etz,
ve'yesh lanu kvish,
be'erezt yisrael.

Eretz Yisrael sheli yafa vegam porachat
Mi bana vemi nata?
Kulanu beyachad!
Ani baniti gesher be'erezt yisrael -
az yesh lanu eretz
ve'yesh lanu bayit,
ve'yesh lanu etz,
ve'yesh lanu kvish,
ve'yesh lanu gesher,
be'erezt yisrael.

Eretz Yisrael sheli yafa vegam porachat
Mi bana vemi nata?
Kulanu beyachad!
Ani chibarti shir be'erezt yisrael -
az yesh lanu eretz
ve'yesh lanu bayit,
ve'yesh lanu etz,
ve'yesh lanu kvish,
ve'yesh lanu gesher,
ve'yesh lanu shir,
be'erezt yisrael.