TEACH IT DILIGENTLY TO YOUR CHILDREN
CIE
Center for Israel Education

Kenneth W. Stein, President

Learning Report for Pre-Trip Lesson 1

Dear family members,

Here are some of the main concepts from the last educational session. We invite you to continue the class discussions at home by sharing the following questions with friends and family.

Enduring Understanding:

1. Connection to the land of Israel is a core component of Jewish identity and peoplehood.
2. The nation that comprises a nation-state is defined by two essential components—national identity and a critical mass of people.

Essential Questions:

1. How has the connection between the Jews and the land of Israel been evident over time?
2. How do Jews relate to Israel in different ways?
3. How did Zionism reinvigorate the connection between Jews and Israel?
4. What are the components of Jewish national identity?
5. How can diversity and national identity coexist?
6. How large a population is necessary to create and sustain a state?

Additional Resources:

- Greenberg, Anna. *OMG! How Generation Y is Redefining Faith in the iPod Era.* Reboot, April 1, 2005.
- Kadushin, Charles, Shaul Kelner, and Leonard Saxe. "Being A Jewish Teenager in America: Trying to Make It." December, 2000. http://www.brandeis.edu/ije/pubs/JAS/JASptI.PDF (accessed 2007).
- Rosenthal, Donna. *The Israelis: Ordinary People in an Extraordinary Land.* New York, NY: Free Press, 2005.

Discussion Questions at Home:

1. What is our family's connection to the people living in Israel today?
2. Is diversity in a country a strength or a weakness? Where can you see this in your country?
3. Why is the Jewish state important to our family?

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