



# MAKE ISRAEL COME **Alive** IN YOUR CLASSROOM





As educators, it is our imperative to teach our students and provide them with the necessary tools to make meaningful connections between the world and themselves.

Current events have placed Israel at the forefront of conflict, but we at Israel Forever want to help you make sure that your students' relationship and connection with Israel goes beyond the headlines and into their hearts in an engaging and exciting way.

It is critical that we provide our students with an appreciation of the history, beauty, culture, and significance of the Jewish State in a dynamic and nuanced way. Students need not only learn about why Israel is wonderful, or about the political conflicts that plague her existence; they must gain a personal connection with Israel by understanding her value in our lives as Jews, about why this connection has lasted thousands of years in exile, and how they can feel a part of Israel even from a distance. Together, we can reverse the trends of increasing disconnect from our Jewish homeland, or misunderstanding of her values, her goals, and the challenges faced in her continued existence.

In addition to our existing programs or initiatives, by utilizing our blogs as "morning reading" for your classroom, you can awaken in your students a real and tangible relationship that will help them balance the complex and challenging issues that are also a part of our continued understanding and respect for Israel.

Let Israel Forever be a part of bringing Israel to life in your classroom! Join us in taking Israel beyond the media, the politics, and the classroom as together we can empower the next generation of Virtual Citizens of Israel.

We look forward to working together to achieve this important goal.

Sincerely,

Dr. Elana Yael Heideman  
Executive Director  
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**Israel Forever**  
Programs & Initiatives



## Inspiring Israel

A good story is a story worth sharing. The power of such a story can last long after it's told, and if successful, has the ability to leave a lasting mark on those who hear it.

**The Israel Forever Blog** is rife with such stories - highlights, experiences, and reflections about Israel that make the reader consider the beauty of the Jewish State in a whole new light. It offers reflections not just about Israel, but about the nature of the Jewish world - our ancient bond and the ties we share in spite of our diverse differences.

Share our featured blogs with your students; read one blog post aloud in your classroom each week; discuss the imagery, emotions, and words the author expressed. Beyond that, share these stories with their parents. At the end of each week, each student can go home with a new anecdote about Israel, some fragment of a connection that over time will develop into a lifelong connection and interest in our ancestral homeland.

**Let your students feel Israel through others' experiences, and encourage them to share any experiences they have from visits to Israel, or reflections on Israel in their lives, in their families, and from a distance.**

## Israel Memory Project

Once you've piqued their interest, have your class embark on its own Israel Memory Project™. Have your students compile a memory book or website about what THEY love most about Israel.

**What's their favorite part of Israel education?**

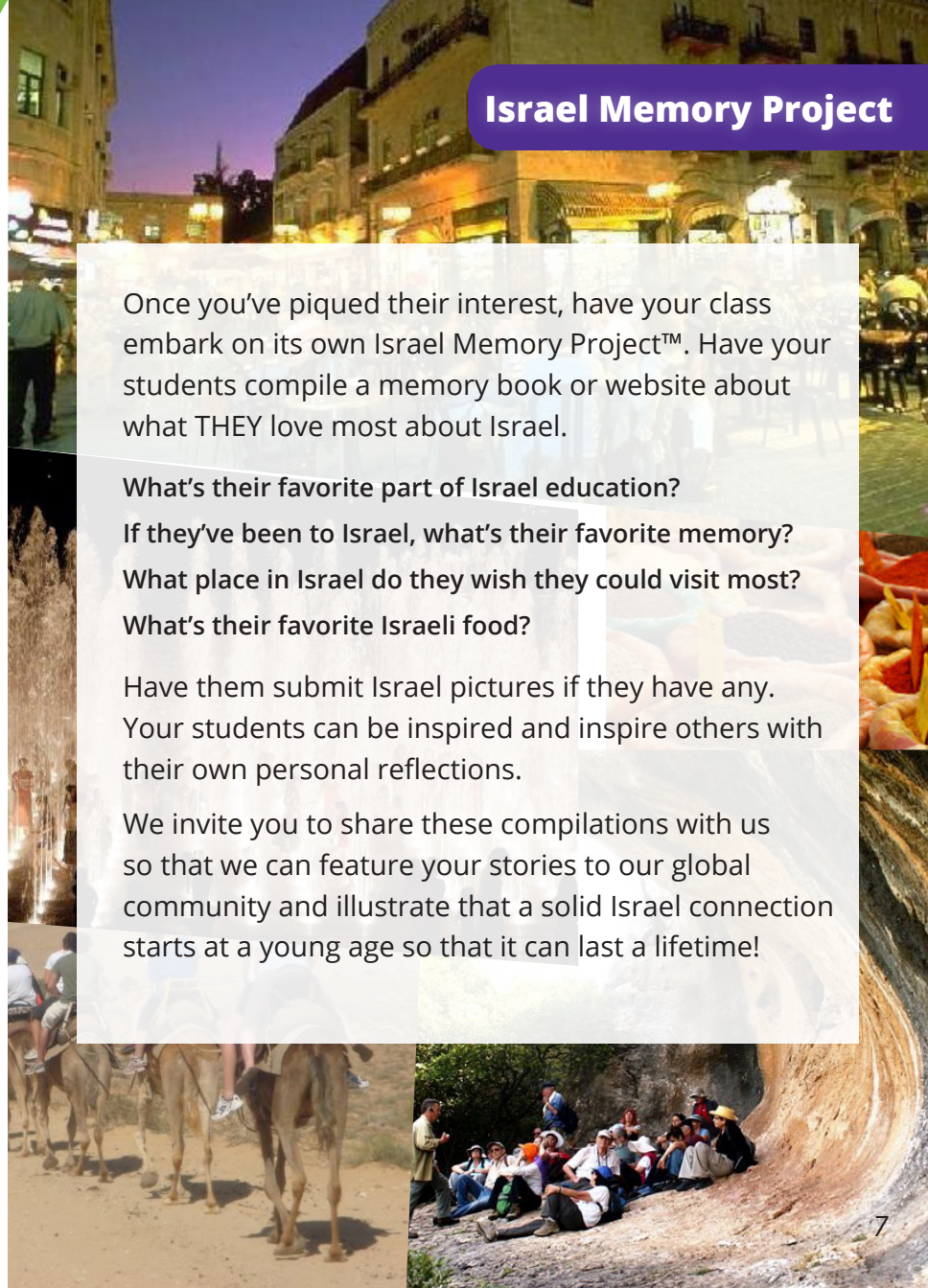
**If they've been to Israel, what's their favorite memory?**

**What place in Israel do they wish they could visit most?**

**What's their favorite Israeli food?**

Have them submit Israel pictures if they have any. Your students can be inspired and inspire others with their own personal reflections.

We invite you to share these compilations with us so that we can feature your stories to our global community and illustrate that a solid Israel connection starts at a young age so that it can last a lifetime!



## Celebrating Israel

Your school probably marks Yom Ha'Atzmaut in some fashion. Whether through a festive Hebrew song session or participation in a local event, you mark the Israel's independence with joy and excitement. Wouldn't it be great if you took this one step further and dedicated more than just this one day towards celebrating Israel? Israel Forever helps you do that by providing engaging content that highlights the connection to Israel for every Jewish holiday, on significant days in Israel's history, and more. Songs, stories and more give us wonderful opportunities to continue our celebration of Israel throughout the year and we aim to provide the resources necessary to make this possible!

## Virtual Citizen of Israel Fair

What better way to encourage a personal connection to Israel than by recognizing your students as Virtual Citizens of Israel? As a class or with their families, you can demonstrate your pride in Israel by joining the only global Jewish community united through their commitment to Israel. We work with you to customize a VCI program that will provide you with the materials you need to build, promote, and actualize your VCI celebration. We adhere to strict privacy laws, and do not require divulging any names or details of your students. We just help you create the best possible program for your students and your desired focus, while putting innovative content straight to your inbox!

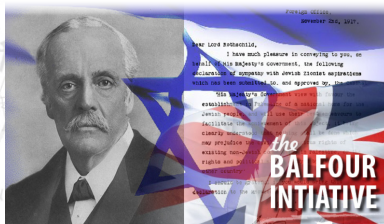
THE  
Israel forever  
FOUNDATION





## The Balfour Initiative

On November 2, 1917, the Jewish people received public validation of our ancient dream of establishing a Jewish State. Celebrate this momentous day in history with a Balfour Day celebration, have your students “sign” The Balfour Declaration, and remind them that Israel was established with the full backing and support of the international community. With the proper context and background of how this event came to be, you can help them feel a part of history as they protect this important legacy for generations to come.

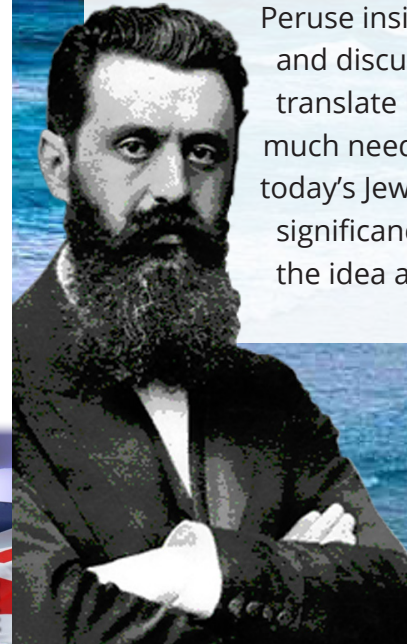


## My Herzl

Explore the connection of Herzl's legacy in our continued connection to our one and only Jewish State.

My Herzl is an Israel Engagement program aimed to increase awareness and understanding of Herzl's life, his unique leadership qualities, and the sustainability of his dream.

Peruse insightful content, special films, and discussion guides that can help you translate Herzl's vision into a call to action much needed in the modern world - a call to today's Jews, young and old, to explore the significance of Herzl's legacy as it relates to the idea and reality of Israel.



**Live The Legacy!**

**READ  
WATCH  
DISCUSS**

[www.IsraelForever.org](http://www.IsraelForever.org)

## The Lone Soldier Project™

There are thousands of young men and women from around the world who leave the comfort of their homes and families to serve as Lone Soldiers in the Israel Defense Forces each year. Help spread awareness of their stories, their experiences, and their reflections to inspire others through their selfless contribution to the Jewish State. Have your class adopt a group of Lone Soldiers. Write them letters. Invite a former Lone Soldier to speak to your class. Check your school's alumni database and see who might have served and wants to share their story. Above all, Lone Soldiers help YOU teach your students about the significance of the IDF as yet another example of what makes Israel so unique.

## Cooking Israel

For some, there is no closer connection to Israel than cooking up the incredible foods that embody its cultural and gastronomic flavors.

Adapted over centuries of Jewish migration to our one and only ancestral land, some of the best Israeli recipes have traveled from countries near and far - each recipe represents some of the most inventive combinations of cheeses, vegetables, fruits, spices, meats and more, making the Israeli menu a glorious collection of flavorful fun.



Grow and nurture a piece of Israel everyday as you plant our signature Israeli wildflower seeds! Make a classroom activity for the kids to take home, or create an Israel garden at your school filled with wildflowers and other plants and herbs you can find locally but are common in Israel. Teach your students about nature and the environment from a Jewish perspective while simultaneously building another connection to the Jewish State. Encourage them to cultivate the plants and care for them as you teach them about the early Chalutzim (pioneers) of Israel who made the desert bloom from a desolate wasteland to a rich and flourishing society.

Just as the landscape in Israel fills with the beautiful whitish pink blossoms of the almond tree, and the annual rebirth of her trees begins anew, we are implored to show our appreciation of the Land of Israel. Since the tradition began hundreds of years ago, versions of this seder have emerged - most focused on environmental messages with Tu B'Shevat identified as the "Jewish earth day."

Israel Forever proudly presents the first-ever Tu B'Shevat Seder focused wholly on the Jewish connection to Israel throughout the generations. With readings, beautiful images, recipes and more, your students - and their families! - are sure to appreciate this unique and inspiring communal experience that reminds us that we wouldn't have Tu B'Shevat if we didn't have Israel!



## Reading Israel Book Club

For centuries, Jews have been known as the “People of the Book.” Introduce a classic or contemporary text about Israel, have your students read it and have a discussion group. How is the Israeli experience different from our own? What did you most connect to? What questions do you have? We offer book suggestions as well as follow up material to facilitate an Israel-oriented discussion in your classroom, and can even help arrange for a personal encounter with an author. Help your students connect to Israel through the written word and explore the wealth of literature that Israel has to offer!



**T**his is just a small sampling of what Israel Forever can bring to your school to enhance your experience as you teach Israel, and enrich your students' experience learning about Israel. So be in touch and let us know what grade you teach, what types of programs speak to your students, and together we can come up with plenty of innovative ways to engage them in Israel and help them develop that lasting connection with our one and only Jewish State!



For more information about bringing Israel Forever programming into your school, contact us!

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# ISRAEL at your FINGERTIPS

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**your homepage!**