

Learning with PaRDeS

PaRDeS is a traditional four-level framework for Jewish learning. In this activity, the PaRDeS approach has been adapted to help learners engage more deeply with primary sources and explore questions of Jewish identity and peoplehood.

Group Activity

Provide each learner with an assembled PaRDeS roadmap.

Introduce learners to the steps of PaRDeS, so learners can apply PaRDeS to their assigned primary source.

Creative Activity

Choose a set of primary sources for learners to analyze using PaRDeS based on your own preference (location, type, theme). To not influence their analysis, do not share the theme of the primary sources with your class.

- [Shana Tova Cards](#)
- [Simchat Torah Flags](#)
- [Israel](#)
- [Education](#)
- [Assortment](#)
- You can choose primary sources from [The Collective](#)

In pairs, learners analyze their primary source using the PaRDeS system, taking notes in their notebooks as they go.

Discussion Questions

- What did you discover about the community where this primary source originated?
- What secret did you uncover?
- How does it connect to your Jewish identity?
- How does it connect to Jewish peoplehood and the Jewish community?

[Video What Is a Primary Source?](#)