Shine a Light on Antisemitism Through Education

WHAT IS ANTISEMITISM? WHY DOES IT MATTER? AND HOW SHOULD WE TEACH ABOUT IT?

Antisemitism is complex and deeply rooted in our societies. Beyond attacking the Jewish community, antisemitism shows up as a weapon in our media, culture and political system. When antisemitism remains unchecked, it endangers our democracy and harms both Jews and other marginalized groups. This is why it is essential to confront antisemitism along with other forms of bias. The most powerful way to do this is through educating young people about what these systems of oppression are and how to challenge them through equity, inclusion and allyship.

ADL HAS BEEN FIGHTING ANTISEMITISM AND ALL FORMS OF HATE SINCE 1913.

To “shine a light” on antisemitism during Hanukkah and throughout the year, we offer the following resources you can use in your classroom to help young people understand and challenge antisemitism.

POWERFUL PROGRAMS TO HELP EDUCATORS TEACH ABOUT ANTISEMITISM

**BINAH:** BINAH – Building Insights to Navigate Antisemitism and Hate – is a free digital, interactive course that uses story-telling to motivate high school students to identify as global citizens with respect for all people.

**ECHOES AND REFLECTIONS:** The lessons of the Holocaust are more important today than ever. Echoes provides resources and professional development that help educators teach the Holocaust, civic engagement and empathy; asynchronous minicourses open to educators for free.
RESOURCES FOR EDUCATORS AND STUDENTS TO LEARN ABOUT ANTISEMITISM, BIAS AND BEYOND

ANTISEMITISM OVERVIEW: This interactive online lesson provides an opportunity for students to study primary sources and reflection on how they see antisemitism manifest.

THE RESILIENCE OF ANTISEMITISM: These 3-part lessons teach about the history of antisemitism to raise awareness about the tactics of hate propaganda and how to respond, on and offline.

PYRAMID OF HATE MINI-LESSON: This interactive activity introduces the Pyramid of Hate and demonstrates how each level of the pyramid reflects a system of oppression that negatively impacts individuals, institutions and society.

8 THINGS YOU CAN DO DURING THE SHINE A LIGHT WEEK OF ACTION (HANUKKAH)

- Challenge antisemitism by debunking myths and responding with facts; this two-unit series provides students with a basic understanding of Jewish people, history, and culture.
- Explore Jewish culture through literature in Books Matter, ADL’s featured books of the month with discussion guides for teachers and families on identity, diversity, and tolerance.
- Address Antisemitism Digital Kit: An educational toolkit that features digital resources from Echoes & Reflections, designed to support educators teaching about antisemitism and the Holocaust.
- Bring the conversation home with a table talk for discussing antisemitism in current events, reflection and allyship.
- Talk about instances of Swastikas and Other Hate Symbols with your students, and what to do when they encounter hateful imagery.
- Help students understand the importance of being an ally, advocate, and activist in the face of antisemitic incidents, from Holocaust jokes to swastika vandalism and assault.
- Invite a Jewish community member or Jewish educator from a local Jewish community center or synagogue to lead lighting the candles, tell the story of Hannukah and answer students’ questions.
- Take an Echoes & Reflections minicourse on Media Literacy, or Contemporary Antisemitism, to help prepare you by learning the pedagogy of sound Holocaust education.