

EARLY CHILDHOOD CALENDAR: TEACHERS GUIDE

A simple and effective way to help your students comprehend calendars!

Doing Calendar: Hanging a calendar on the wall and marking it each day during calendar routine.

Vs. Is there a better way?

Teaching Calendar: Yes! With a simple step-by-step teaching method your students can understand calendar procedures.

WHAT ARE THE ADVANTAGES OF TEACHING CALENDAR?

Children have a hard time relating to anything abstract. As time (month, week, day,) is abstract, children don't necessarily understand calendar routine unless it is taught to them in a concrete way. This calendar is designed to help students gain an understanding of the monthly cycle and how a calendar represents the days in a month.

HOW DO WE TEACH CALENDAR?

STEP 1:

Introduce the Weekly Calendar strip to your class. Explain to your students that this is a representation of a week, each box represents another day of the week. Each day you mark one box on calendar strip. Familiarize your students with the days of the week by singing a calendar routine song each day.



STEP 2:

On Monday of Week 2, remove all the pieces from the week strip and explain to students that the week is over and a new week has already started so you will begin marking the calendar all over again.

Sing the chant and marking one box on the calendar each day.

Continue this pattern until students are familiar with the sequence of the days and understand that one week follows the next.



STEP 3:

You are ready to introduce your students to the concept of a "month"!

At the start of a new week, add a new weekly calendar strip following the first and explain to your students that instead of removing pieces you will add a new calendar strip for the new week.

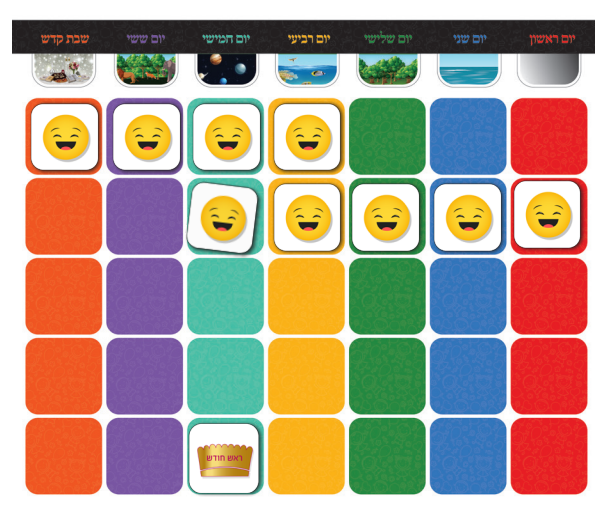
Continue adding strips at the beginning of each week until you reach the last day of the month.



Explain to students that all of these week together form what is called a "month." Being that the next day will be "Rosh Chodesh", you have now reached the end of the month because Rosh Chodesh is the first day of a new month. Tell students that on the following day you will be removing all the pieces because although the week is not over, (Rosh Chodesh may fall out in the middle of the week) the month is over and you will start filling the calendar from the first day of the month.

After you remove all the pieces from the calendar, you can immediately mark the box for the next Rosh Chodesh and explain to students that on that day another new month will start.

VARIATION: When introducing the concept of a month, bring in a regular monthly calendar and show students how the strips fit into the regular calendar, because a month consists of a few weeks together.



CALENDAR MATH

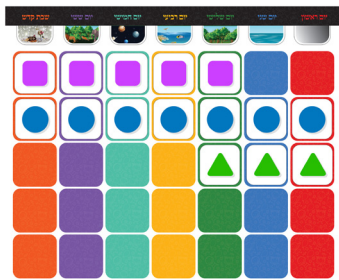
Taking advantage of math moments each day!

What is calendar math?

Calendar math involves incorporating math concepts and skills into the calendar routine.

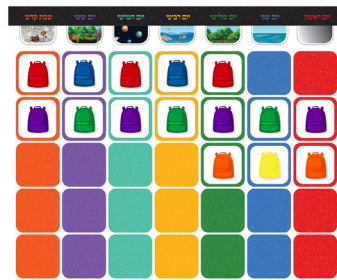
Example #1:

Matching-shapes

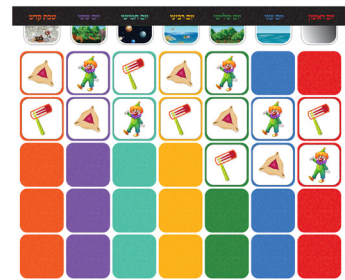


Example #2:

Patterning 2 pictures-
briefcase

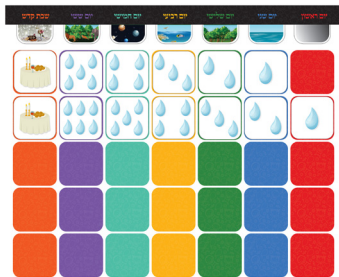


Patterning 3 pictures- clown,
hamantash, gragger, clown,
hamantash, gragger....



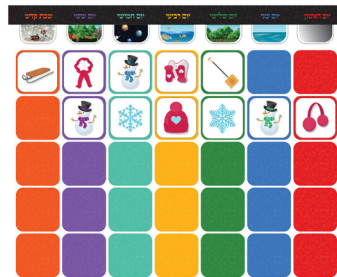
Example #3:

Counting- raindrops



Example #4:

Association- winter pics



Calendar Routine Song

(Tune: Where is Thumpkin.....)

Sunday, Monday,
Tuesday, Wednesday,
Thursday, and Friday,
After that comes Shabbos,
After that comes Shabbos,
And we start again!
And we start again!
Sunday, Monday.....

Today is Monday, Today is
Monday,
Yom Sheini, Yom Sheini.
Yesterday was Sunday,
Tomorrow will be Tuesday,
Today is Monday,
Today is Monday.

