STAGE 2
Educator Guide

Explore our magical world
of Hebrew letters

Produced by Jewish Interactive
in partnership with the Michael Goulston Educational Foundation
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This Educator Guide accompanies the course in Ji Tap that can be found at
https://www.jitap.net/store/course/149/

Other courses in this series:

- Ji Alef-Bet Stage 1 (US)  
  [https://www.jitap.net/store/course/66/](https://www.jitap.net/store/course/66/)
- Ji Alef-Bet Stage 1 (UK)  
  [https://www.jitap.net/store/course/75/](https://www.jitap.net/store/course/75/)
- Mish Mash Letters  
  [https://www.jitap.net/store/course/150/](https://www.jitap.net/store/course/150/)
About the Michael Goulston Educational Foundation

In 1957 when Michael Goulston z”l came to the Leo Baeck College aged 26 to study for the Rabbinate he had no Hebrew at all. He did not even know the Alef Bet and I had the privilege of teaching him the Alef Bet. In 1968 Rabbi Michael Goulston was appointed assistant Rabbi at West London Synagogue (where Rabbi Hugo Gryn z”l was Senior Rabbi) and we renewed our friendship. Tragically Michael died in 1972 but in his years at West London Synagogue he had great foresight and was using a 2-inch Ampex video tape machine to make educational video programs!

Immediately after his death, the Michael Goulston Educational Foundation was formed to continue his work and we published a number of audiovisual programs.

In 2012, upset by the fact that so many of our children (even those starting their Bar/BatMitzvah program) did not even know all the letters of the Hebrew alphabet, I had the idea to create a series of videos for 5/6 year olds in which there would be a story about each letter.

In February 2014 (still searching for an organization that had the capability to do this and importantly shared my vision), I came across Jewish Interactive and went to meet their CEO, Chana Kanzen who was immediately excited by the idea as she had already written a number of stories for the same reason. In addition to make it more fun, singing as well as games and puzzles with words which would be associated with each letter would be introduced as this would improve the learning experience enormously.

So at the beginning of 2017 Jewish Interactive started working on the Alef-Bet project which has now come to fruition – 60 years after my teaching Michael the Alef Bet!

The hope now is that 5/6 year old children will have enjoyed learning the Hebrew alphabet in Stage 1 and will now go on to complete Stage 2 of the Ji Alef-Bet series from which they will learn to read simple phrases. They will then have the basis on which to take the next step in their Hebrew learning. We intend to continue this partnership and develop more fun digital Hebrew learning programs.

Edward Gold
Ji Alef Bet Stage 2-Educator Guide

Course Overview
Welcome to the magical pop-up book of the Hebrew Alef Bet, Stage 2!

Having completed Ji Alef-Bet Stage 1, children should be able to recognize and sound each Hebrew letter. They should also be familiar with the vowels and their sounds. In the first series, the stories were in English, all taking place within a magical pop-up book.

In Ji Alef-Bet Stage 2, we begin with initial reading exercises in Hebrew. We have produced a story on each letter, trying to incorporate many Hebrew words with that target letter. The animations are in simple Hebrew, and the child progresses from watching animations to reading the story independently from a virtual book. Much care was taken in the design of the book to give the child the feeling of a Hebrew book, reading from right to left.

The stories are in Hebrew, but the instructions are in English as this course was designed not only for ‘Sunday’ schools and cheders, but for families with young children, whose parents do not necessarily know Hebrew.

All the pages in the magical pop-up book start with the Hebrew book opening as seen here. The book then pages to the letter that is about to be taught, displaying each letter as it pages.

**Note:** The course has been designed so that teachers can teach the letters in any order. The default playlist goes in alphabetical order, but any lesson can be accessed at any time.
Lesson Structure

Every lesson follows the same structure, allowing the young child to know what to expect in each section. To get the children used to reading in Hebrew from right to left, the menu starts on the top right, with small arrows indicating the flow. We used voiceover in Hebrew, to slowly introduce these menu items.

The items in this menu are in a different order from Stage 1, so that there is a natural progression from learning the words that will be used in the story, watching the animation, reading the story in dependently, then interacting with the story.

*Figure 1 Menu starts on the top right and progresses leftwards*
Let's Learn Words (בואו נלמד מילים)

The lesson begins with the Hebrew words that will be used in the lesson. The child can tap each letter to hear its sound or tap the picture to hear the whole word. For each letter's lesson, we highlight that letter in each word. Learners then can match the words to the pictures.

For a full list of the words taught in this series, look at the Dictionary section.

Figure 2 The letter of that lesson is highlighted in the words

Animation

The stories were written to incorporate words the include that lesson’s letter. All the animations are in simple Hebrew, with the captions in Hebrew. We don’t expect the children to read these captions, but we wanted to introduce the idea that the animation would become a static book later.

Figure 3 Animations show captions in Hebrew
Let's Read (בואו נתקורו)
There are two parts to this section: “Read to me” and then independent reading.

Read to me: Upon clicking this icon, the learner opens the static book version of the story that they have just seen as an animation. The story has the voiceover from the animation, and the words are highlighted as they are spoken, karaoke style.

Notice that great care has been taken to emphasize that Hebrew is from right to left. The page numbers count from right to left, and the page curls on the bottom left corner, to emphasize that the page will turn from there.

Independent reading: Once the karaoke story is finished, the learner is then asked to read ‘all by yourself’. This section completes the transformation from animation to a ‘real’ book, where the pages are static, and you have to read by yourself.

This section enables the child to work out the word and then to check independently whether they are correct, by tapping the word to hear it voiced.
There is a button “Read to me” on every page, so the learner can go back to see the karaoke at any time, if they are having problems reading the words themselves.

To turn the page, learners need to tap the curling page corner on the bottom left corner, again, to emphasize the direction used in Hebrew.

We use an image of a pointing hand to indicate where to start reading the words, from right-to-left. This is only shown on the first page of each book.

Let’s Play (בואו נשחק)
This puzzle section is used to reinforce the meaning of words and for comprehension of the story. Some examples of puzzle screens:

Let’s Continue (בואו נמשיך)
The learner can decide that they want to continue to the next section or to the next letter.
Although most of the lessons on the letters are very structured and simple, there are a few notes that we would like to highlight:

Masculine and feminine forms
We will be teaching the masculine and feminine forms of the words in the third stage of Ji Alef-Bet. Teachers will need to explain the different forms used in the following lessons:

- Let’s read about Gimmel: נָזְלָה and נָזֶל
- Let’s read about Vav: רוֹצַה and רוֹצֶה
- Let’s read about Resh: רוֹפֵא and פוֹרָה, רוֹפֶה and פוֹרֶה

Plurals
We will be teaching about plurals in the third stage of Ji Alef-Bet. For your convenience, the following plurals appear in the Stage 2 reading lessons:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>کلماته</th>
<th>کلماته</th>
<th>کلماته</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>تنی</td>
<td>تنی</td>
<td>تنی</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>گل‌دار</td>
<td>گل‌دار</td>
<td>گل‌دار</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>زیتون</td>
<td>زیتون</td>
<td>زیتون</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>گردو</td>
<td>گردو</td>
<td>گردو</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>توت</td>
<td>توت</td>
<td>توت</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Letters instead of humans in the stories
There are some places where we had to introduce other characters into the stories, and we used other letters instead of humans, since the stories all revolve around letters. It might need some explanation in the lesson "Let's read about Yud", where we use other letter characters for יֶלֶד and בָּבֶל in the sea. We tried to make the Bet look as boyish as possible, and the Gimmel look as girlish as possible! But it will need a teacher’s explanation.

Teacher needs to explain שָׂמֵחַ
In the lesson “Let's read about Ayin”, the word שָׂמֵחַ is used, since the letters sing the birthday song to Ayin. Teachers will need to explain to the children that the letter sound is ‘ach’ and not ‘cha’ at the end of the word.
The following 157 words have been extracted from the entire Ji Alef-Bet Stage 2 series. They are sorted alphabetically for your convenience and have the English translation.
He comes

בָּא

She comes

בָּאָה

Please, with pleasure

בּבַקָּשָׁה

Bathing suit

יָם בֶּגֶד

Come! (to a boy)

בּוֹא

Cupboard

אָרוֹן

Come! (to more than one)

בּוֹאוּ

You (boy)

אַתָּה

Come! (to a girl)

בּוֹאִי

Mother

אִמָּא

We

נַחֲנוּ

Nose

אַף

Please,
Havdalah
Ice creams
Behold, here is
Rain
Mountain
A lot
Fish
Flag
Friend
(chocolate)
מָזוֹן
רֹס
חָלָב
חַמָּה
חֲנֻכָּה
חָסָּה
חָתֻול
חַג
זָהָב
זַיִת
זֵיתִים
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>English</th>
<th>Hebrew</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hand</td>
<td>יד</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Day</td>
<td>יום</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Birthday</td>
<td>יום הזילוח</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boy</td>
<td>בָּיִלְדָּה</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Girl</td>
<td>בָּיָלָד</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sea</td>
<td>ים</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Good</td>
<td>טוב</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tallit</td>
<td>טַלִּית</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tasty</td>
<td>טָעִים</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A drop</td>
<td>טִפָּה</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Image</td>
<td>English</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>--------</td>
<td>---------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><img src="image" alt="Ball" /></td>
<td>Ball</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><img src="image" alt="He hurts" /></td>
<td>He hurts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><img src="image" alt="She hurts" /></td>
<td>She hurts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><img src="image" alt="Hat" /></td>
<td>Hat</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><img src="image" alt="Blue" /></td>
<td>Blue</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><img src="image" alt="Well done!" /></td>
<td>Well done!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><img src="image" alt="Nice" /></td>
<td>Nice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><img src="image" alt="Green" /></td>
<td>Green</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><img src="image" alt="Israel" /></td>
<td>Israel</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
ל

No
לָא

Dog
כֶּלֶב

Heart
לב

Yes
יו

White
לב

Chair
כִּסֵּא

See you later!
לְהִתְרָאוֹת

Classroom
כִּתָּה

To life!
לְחַיִּים

Orange
כָּתוֹם

Clown
לֵיצָן

To play
לְשַׂחֵק
Shoe  נעל

Candle  נר

Candles  נרות

Mezuzah  מודזה

Congratulations!  Mazel tov

Menorah  מנורה

Camera  מצלמה

Gift  מהתנה


What happened?  ממה קרה?
ע

Round  עגול

Cake  עוגה

A round cake  עוגה עגלת

On  על

Sugar  סוכר

Cloud  ענן

Tree  עץ

Evening  ערב

Grandmother  סבתא

Purple  סגול

End  סוף

Donut  ספגניה

Donuts  ספגניהות
A fruit

 Mouth

 Butterfly

 Here

 Felafel

 Fruit (plural)

 Flower

 Flowers
He jumps  קובץ
Tortoise  צב
Kivi  קיבי
Color  צבע
Flour  קמח
Colors  צבעים
Cold  קור
Yellow  צהוב
Rainbow  קשת
Bird  ציפור
Frog  צפרדע
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ש</th>
<th>ר</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Shabbat</td>
<td>Head</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Field</td>
<td>Leg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Snow</td>
<td>Doctor (male)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shalom</td>
<td>Doctor (female)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>He wants</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mine</td>
<td>She wants</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Happy</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Thank you very much

Oil

Strawberry

Sun

Strawberries

Hair

Date

Give me

Orange

Fig

Prayer

Thank you
Credits

Director & Producer         Corinne Ossendryver
Art Director & Visual Concept  Rachel Silke
Graphic Designer           Jessica Hurwitz
Animator                   King Bee Animation, London
Stories and Dialogs        Hadas Motro, Chana Kanzen
Sound Engineering          Mitch Clyman, Muso Studio, Jerusalem
Voices                     Kivi: Mitch Clyman
                           Letters: Amichai Kronenberg,
                           Maayan Kronenberg
Educator Guide             Corinne Ossendryver,
                           Rachel Silke & Jessica Hurwitz

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Edward Gold
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