

Venture into Yom Ha'atzmaut Israel Independence Day



Keep Learning!

Tikvah and Rodeph Shalom | Hope and Seeking Peace

Tikvah, meaning hope, is a central value of Judaism. It's an active belief that even though there has been suffering and loss, there are still better times ahead. It's the hope that the peace we seek will come, that it can be built.

Rodeph Shalom, seeking peace, is more than just loving peace (*Ohev Shalom*) — it's seeking it out and making it happen, even when it's uncomfortable. Being a peace-seeker means taking responsibility for healing conflict—between people, within communities, and in the world.

Activity | Make an Israeli Flag

*The Israeli flag is full of symbols: The blue stripes are designed to look like the stripes on the tallit, a traditional prayer shawl, connecting the flag to Jewish tradition and the white background is often symbolic of peace (*shalom*). The flag itself is a symbol of hope (*tikvah*) and the enduring spirit of the Jewish people.*

1. **Collect an assortment of small blue items** from around your house or outside. They don't all have to be the same shade of blue. (Some ideas: buttons, pompoms, candy, blueberries, flowers, toys, earrings, beads, etc.)
2. **Print the template of the Israeli flag** from the back of this toolkit
3. **Fill in the spaces** with the blue items, leaving the background white.
4. If you can't find enough items to fill all the space, **try ripping up some blue paper into small pieces or coloring** in the empty space with crayon or marker.
5. **Take a photo of your creation** and [share it with us](#) before returning all the blue items to their proper place.

