



A More Meme-ingful Seder

Topic

Passover

Grade Level(s)

4th – 12th

Goals for the Lesson/Activity

Students will:

- Understand that the Seder is meant to be an imaginative and engaging event
- Create Seder memes based on their understanding of the steps of the Seder
- Incorporate their own commentary (through memes) into a Seder

Materials needed

- Haggadah, 1 for each student or group
- Meme Prompt Sheet, 1 for each student or group ([available as download](#))
- “10 Things You Might Not Know about the Seder,” 1 for each student or group ([available as download](#))

Technology needed

- Devices
- [Canva](#) (free online) or meme generating app (If using a meme generating app, be careful that content is appropriate.)

Note 1: Remember to take advantage of the technology skills of students and *madrichim* who have experience making memes. Canva also offers a quick tutorial on how to make a meme.

Note 2: This activity is meant to incorporate devices. However, if devices are unavailable, memes can be created with markers, paper, and pictures cut out from old magazines.

Background for Teachers

The Passover Seder presents people with the opportunity to recount the journey of *בְּנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל* (*B'nei Yisrael*, the Israelites) from slavery to freedom. The Seder, though, includes more than just the retelling of that journey; it incorporates lively explorations of the narrative of *B'nei Yisrael* leaving Egypt, festive eating, joyous song, and more into an evening of celebration and connection. The Haggadah is the guide that leads participants through the various parts of the Seder.

Although much of its text is standard, the Haggadah itself is not a static entity. Many different versions of the Haggadah are available, and throughout the years people have incorporated additional interpretations into the book's text. One primary method of interpretation is art, the images included among the text (and of the text) providing even more insight into the words on the page. The *Moss Haggadah*, *Asufa Haggadah*, and



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Moriah Haggadah are just three recent examples of art providing interpretation of the Haggadah.

Description of Activities

1. Ask students to share Seder traditions that are special to them or Seder moments that stand out in their memories.
2. Explain that the Passover Seder is built to engage people in all of the elements that go into an absorbing retelling of *B'nei Yisrael* leaving Egypt.
3. Explain that bringing new ideas to the Seder table is not only permissible but also encouraged.
4. Tell students that they will be creating Seder memes that they can use during their own Seders. They will create one meme for each section of the Seder.
5. Remind students that memes can be generated from a picture or from a quote/idea. (Examples of each kind are available below to show students.)
6. Students use the "Meme Prompt Sheet" and "10 Things You Might Not Know about the Seder" for ideas.
 - a. Remind students that they can use the prompts given and add pictures, or they can come up with their own ideas.
 - b. Encourage students to use the "10 Things..." sheet for ideas to create memes that might present something new to the people at their Seders.
7. If students are working individually, encourage them to print their memes and use them at their Seders. If students are working in groups, print a set for each student to use at their Seders. Classmates might also share and trade meme ideas or finished products.

Differentiation Options

Knowing that students learn in a variety of ways and modalities, the following options are provided to adjust the above lesson to meet the unique needs of your learners.

For learners who need more assistance

- Provide students with one prompt for each section of the Seder and invite them to find a picture to go with it.
- Students simply find a picture to match each section of the Seder.

For learners who need extension opportunities

- Challenge students to come up with memes that are all in the same style such as Shakespeare verses or pictures featuring famous politicians.
- Students research their own "things you might not know about the Seder" and incorporate their findings into their memes.

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Examples of Memes Using One Picture and Varied Text (“Success Kid”)



Examples of Memes Using One Idea and Varied Imagery



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Examples of Seder-ready Passover Memes Using JTeach.org Prompts

