



WAYS TO USE THE PRAYER COMPANION WITH SHALOM IVRIT



The *Shalom Ivrit Prayer Companion* presents blessings and songs for the home and synagogue, including Shabbat and the holidays, and selected prayers from the Friday evening and Shabbat morning services. If you use *Shalom Ivrit 1* to teach modern Hebrew reading comprehension, you can prepare students for home ritual observance and synagogue participation with the *Prayer Companion*.

There are many ways to integrate the *Prayer Companion* into your *Shalom Ivrit* program. Here are a few suggestions:

1. Teach a Prayer Companion chapter after each Shalom Ivrit chapter.

Each chapter of the *Prayer Companion* is tied thematically to the corresponding chapter in *Shalom Ivrit*. So, after you teach that אָבִי and אִמִּי mean “father” and “mother” in Chapter 1 of *Shalom Ivrit*, you can teach in Chapter 1 of the *Prayer Companion* that when they awaken in the morning men and boys say מוֹדֵה אֲנִי and women and girls say מוֹדֵה אֲנִי.

2. Link Prayer Companion chapters to your class holiday discussions.

Each chapter of the *Prayer Companion* is focused on a particular holiday. For Sukkot, you can review the blessing for dwelling in the sukkah, lighting holiday candles, and shaking the lulav, and you can teach the names of the holiday, all found in Chapter 3. For Purim, review the blessings recited before the *megillah* reading and teach Purim rituals and mitzvot, such as the giving of *mishloah manot*, in Chapter 11.

3. Designate a portion of your day for prayer study.

Use the *Prayer Companion* for 10–15 minutes of each class session, as a complement to your Hebrew language study. Tie it chapter by chapter to *Shalom Ivrit* so that as students read stories about the holidays they learn the related holiday rituals, prayers, blessings, and songs.

4. Use the Prayer Companion with your synagogue’s prayer book.

The *Prayer Companion* teaches blessings for home observance, selected prayers from Friday night, and the opening prayers in the Shabbat morning service. After completing a prayer in the *Companion*, help students locate it in your synagogue’s prayer book. Show them the prayer’s place in the order of the service. Practice reading the complete prayer and, where appropriate, chant it together. Conduct model services; build the service by adding each new prayer that students study in the *Prayer Companion*.

5. Bring Shabbat and the holidays to life.

As you teach each blessing for the home and synagogue, bring in the appropriate ritual objects and foods: for example, Shabbat candles and candlesticks, *hallah*, and grape juice when you learn the Shabbat blessings, a lulav on Sukkot, and matzah and other seder items for Passover. Or assign a project related to the holiday: for example, make Israeli flags on Yom Ha’atzma’ut or plant a sapling on Tu B’Shevat.

6. Focus on the values associated with the holidays.

Play up Jewish values and concepts for each holiday in the *Prayer Companion*: for example, religious freedom on Hanukkah, gratitude in Birkat Hamazon, *bal tashhit* on Tu B’Shevat, and *mishloah manot* and *matanot la’evyonim* for Purim.

