ACTIVITY
1) Set Induction
This game is a variation on the game “I am going to...and I am taking....” Have the class sit in a circle. The teacher begins: “I am going to teach you about .....(pick some issue, skill, content area). ...and I am going to do it by....” [Example: “I am going to teach you about swimming and I am going to do it by taking you to the pool.”]

As you go around the circle, each student makes up their own sentence, and then repeats all the ones that came before them. The group can help everyone along. As the last person recites the entire group’s list, record on the board the list of words given after the word “by.” [In the example, it would be “taking.”]

On the board, you will have a long list of the ways in which people teach other people to do things. There will most likely be duplicate words. Add check marks or stars as words get repeated. Discuss:
Are these good ways to educate people about something we care about?
Are there any that are missing?
Why is it important to educate people about the things we care about?

2) Text Study

DEVARIM 6:4-9
Hear, O Israel, God is our God, God is One. You shall love God, your God, with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your might. And these matters that I command you today shall be upon your heart. You shall teach them thoroughly to your children and you shall speak of them while you sit in your home, while you walk on the way, when you retire and when you arise. Bind them as a sign upon your arm and let them be ornaments between your eyes. And write them on the doorposts of your house and upon your gates.
The above text is the *Shema* and *V’ahavta* prayer. As a class, recite the prayer out loud (in English or Hebrew), stopping when you get to anything about teaching or learning. Record these words on the board. Discuss:

**Why are teaching and learning such critical parts of our liturgy?**

### DEVARIM 4:9
Only beware and watch yourselves scrupulously, so that you do not forget the things that your eyes saw and so that they do not fade from your heart as long as you live. And make them known to your children and to your children’s children.

### PROVERBS 1:2-3
For learning wisdom and discipline; for discerning words of understanding; for accepting wise discipline, righteousness, justice, and fairness…

On their own, have each student read the above texts (available to print at BabagaNewz.com) and *think* about what each means to them. Have them consider what that text is telling us about education and learning. Then have them *write* a few main ideas down. Next, in pairs, have students study these two texts. Ask them to discuss what it means to them and what they wrote down. Have them formulate one main idea to share with the entire group. Finally, bring the group back together and have each pair present their ideas.

3) **Conclusion/Take Home Web Resource**
One of the ways we educate people is via photos and videos. Websites like [http://troovi.com/](http://troovi.com/) allow users to create a central URL for photos multiple people want to upload. If your school has digital cameras, send the group out in pairs or in rotation to take pictures of people learning and teaching. Have them come back and, using their computers, upload to a Troovi site you have pre-established. Consider publishing this final product to parents or school board members. ([http://photobucket.com/](http://photobucket.com/) and Facebook photos are other ways to share photos online).

Note: Captions help educate along with the picture. Have students practice writing captions for a few of these photos with the goal of educating others about the content of the photo.

If you have flip cams, you can upload education videos to YouTube. A website like [http://jaycut.com/](http://jaycut.com/) can help you edit them easily. Consider how interviewing people and broadcasting the interview is a form of education.

Websites like [http://animoto.com/](http://animoto.com/) let you combine photos, videos, captions, and music into a presentation that can then be distributed via e-mail, Twitter, Facebook, blogs, etc.

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For a longer-term project on “educating,” have the class pick a social justice issue they want to focus on. Divide the class into groups. One group will take photos, another will interview experts or those affected by the issue, and another will research data about the issue and write a news article. Then, create an e-mail “press release” that will contain all of these elements (or links to them) and send it out to the entire school or congregation.