



Global Beit Midrash: Teenagers' Haggadah Art Contest

The [Global Beit Midrash](#) seeks to inspire young Jews throughout the world to connect, collaborate, and create through the paths of story, text, culture, and social action.

In preparation for Passover, we are sponsoring a global contest to create artistic interpretations of the Four Children section of the Passover Haggadah. Winning art-work will be featured prominently on the Global Beit Midrash website and the artists will receive \$180 gift certificates.

Deadlines

April 1--deadline

Jewish Text Criteria

A creative, thought provoking interpretation of the "Four Children" based upon a careful reading of the original text.

Art Criteria

All submissions with 2-dimensional media are encouraged (except for photography). An independent jury will evaluate entries in accordance to the following categories:

- 1) *Concept*: Ideas demonstrate deep and independent thinking and opens, instead of closes, conversations.
- 2) *Visual Connection*: Concepts are reinforced by artistic decisions.
- 3) *Craftsmanship*: Proficient use of material and a working knowledge of the principles of art and design.
- 4) *Written Statement*: Using no more than 36 words, students will describe how their art personally interprets either one of the four children or the relationship of two or more. Judges will use the written statement to help evaluate both higher order thinking and the concept/visual connections.

Criteria for Art Submission

- 1) Images must be submitted as a .jpeg
- 2) Minimum 300 dpi
- 3) Artist statement should include artist's name, school, city, media and 36 word statement

Submission Instructions

Included in this letter are English and Hebrew versions of the Four Children text from the Passover Haggadah -- feel free to use this, or another version or translation you think will be helpful. The questions are to assist in your students' thinking and study of the Four Children prior to starting their art projects. Please be in touch with gmeyerson@milkenschool.org if you have any questions.

Passover Haggadah, Four Children

The Torah speaks of four children: One is wise, one is wicked, one is simple and one does not know how to ask.

The wise one, what does (s)he say? "What are the testimonies, the statutes and the laws which the L-rd, our G-d, has commanded you?" You, in turn, shall instruct him in the laws of Passover, [up to] 'one is not to eat any dessert after the Passover-afikoman.'

The wicked one, what does (s)he say? "*What does this service mean to you?!*" He says 'to you,' but not to him! By thus excluding himself from the community he has denied that which is fundamental. You, therefore, blunt his teeth and say to him: "It is because of this that the Lord did for me when I left Egypt"; 'for me' - but not for him! If he had been there, he would not have been redeemed!"

The simple son, what does (s)he say? "What is this?" Thus you shall say to him: "With a strong hand the Lord took us out of Egypt, from the house of slaves."

As for the one who does not know how to ask, you must initiate him/her, as it is said: "You shall tell your child on that day, 'It is because of this that the Lord did for me when I left Egypt.'"

כִּנְגֵד אַרְבַּעַה בְּנִים דְּבִרָה תוֹרָה. אֶחָד חָכָם, וְאֶחָד רָשָׁע, וְאֶחָד תָּם, וְאֶחָד שָׂאִינוּ יוֹדְעַ לְשֵׁאוֹל.
חָכָם מָה הוּא אוֹמֵר? מַה הָעֵדוּת וְהַחֲקִים וְהַמְשָׁפְטִים אֲשֶׁר צִוָּה יי אֱלֹהֵינוּ אֲתָכֶם? וְאִי אֵתָה אֹמֵר
לוֹ כְּהִלְכוֹת הַפֶּסַח: אֵין מְפֹטִירִין אַחַר הַפֶּסַח אֶפִיקוֹמֵן.
רָשָׁע מָה הוּא אוֹמֵר? מַה הָעֵבֶדָה הַזֹּאת לָכֶם? לָכֶם - וְלֹא לוֹ. וְלִפִּי שֶׁהוֹצִיא אֶת עַצְמוֹ מִן הַכֶּלֶל כִּפָּר
בְּעֵקֶר. וְאִי אֵתָה הַקְּהָה אֶת שִׁנּוּי וְאֹמֵר לוֹ: בְּעֵבוֹר זֶה עָשָׂה יי לִי בְּצִאתִי מִמִּצְרַיִם. לִי - וְלֹא לוֹ. אֵילוֹ
הָיָה שָׂם, לֹא הָיָה נִגְאָל.
תָּם מָה הוּא אוֹמֵר? מַה זֹאת? וְאִמְרַתְּ אֵלָיו: בְּחֹזֶק יָד הוֹצִיאָנוּ יי מִמִּצְרַיִם, מִבֵּית עֲבָדִים
וְשָׂאִינוּ יוֹדְעַ לְשֵׁאוֹל - אֵת פֶּתַח לוֹ, שְׁנַאֲמַר: וְהִגַּדְתָּ לְבִנְךָ בַּיּוֹם הַהוּא לֵאמֹר, בְּעֵבוֹר זֶה עָשָׂה יי לִי
בְּצִאתִי מִמִּצְרַיִם.

Guiding Questions:

1. Read through the Four Children. According to the text, why are they called wise, wicked, simple, and son?
2. Can you identify any problems in the text— things that do not make sense?
3. Why are they ordered the way they are? Is there a development from one to another?
4. If you met these children today, what would they look like or act like or sound like? What types of contemporary (Jewish) questions would each child ask/not ask?
5. How would you respond to each? Who would you want or not want to spend time with?
6. What is the most negative/positive type?
7. Can you imagine a fifth child? How would you describe him/her?
8. Where would you place yourself? Today? Five years ago?
9. Some commentators see the children as generations. Does this make sense in your family?
10. How would you describe four daughters or four types of parents?