

Israel: Environment, Climate and Geography: Historic and Current Challenges and Successes that Impact Our Lives

Dr. Tal Grinfas-David

March 20, 2022



Breakout Groups

- Tal – Strategies for teaching about climate change and what students of all ages can do about it
- Rachel – Creating a school trip that celebrates learning about Israel's innovations around climate change



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5F6pfbzETU&t=1s>

How can trees stop wildfires?



- <https://www.cnn.com/videos/world/2021/10/06/israel-wildfires-tree-swapping-climate-crisis-intl-pkg-vpx.cnn>

Plan for Passover

- How can you make your holiday environmentally friendly?
- Animals – Frogs
<https://www.smithsonianmag.com/smart-news/an-extinct-frog-reappears-in-israel-93444192/#:~:text=Called%20the%20Hula%20painted%20frog,critically%20endangered%20rather%20than%20extinct.>
And
<https://www.israel21c.org/watershed-moment-for-extinct-israeli-frog/>



Why locusts form destructive swarms

Researchers discover what causes solitary, harmless insects to radically change their behavior and form huge migrating swarms.

By *Abigail Klein Leichman* | MARCH 7, 2022, 8:00 AM



History and Science can Shape our Future

- <https://www.israel21c.org/why-locusts-form-destructive-swarms/>

Tel Aviv ranks #2 in global cleantech ecosystem report

Startup Genome report finds the White City second only to Silicon Valley for startups dedicated to renewable energy, transportation and logistics.

By [Abigail Klein Leichman](#) | FEBRUARY 10, 2022, 9:18 AM



<https://www.israel21c.org/tel-aviv-ranks-2-in-global-cleantech-ecosystem-report/>

9 technologies to help the world's trees

To celebrate the Jewish environmental holiday of Tu B'shvat, find out about the top ag-tech companies working to ensure the health and wellbeing of our trees.

By [Naama Barak](#) | JANUARY 13, 2022, 7:30 AM



<https://www.israel21c.org/9-technologies-to-help-the-worlds-trees/>

Translating to School Experiences

- Have a rotating bulletin board with interactive challenges about Israel and Climate Change
- Design scavenger hunts with prizes where students scan codes to learn more
- Assign each student a 5 minute presentation at the beginning of each class from israel21C.org
- Create a design challenge – what innovation from Israel could help our school or community become more environmentally friendly?
- Examine the trees and their properties – what landscape design would you recommend to both beautify the school and make it hardy for drought, frost, heat and wildfires?
- Design an Israel garden at your school – how will you make your area bloom and what will it represent?
<https://germantownjewishcentre.org/building-and-grounds/israel-garden/> Create a greenhouse for conditions that suit biblical plants, https://www.tieonline.com/view_article.cfm?ArticleID=208
- Have students design an online escape room activity about climate change
- Learn about the flora and fauna of Israel and how eco systems are interdependent
- Explore the man-made lake in Dimona: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6ws1C8yHC28> or the new woodland in the Negev: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=y0ny6nienxM> or the Nevatim Reservoir: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=my8KS49k9Wo>
- How does Kibbutz Ketura serve as an oasis for growing food? https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6LvTCaUY_os and https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_FAgQ0aXwDs
- What is sustainable farming and how does this benefit a community?
- The crisis of refugees – how will climate change impact people around the world and the State of Israel? Where are refugees today and why are they leaving? To where?

Collaborating on Rain Barrels to Address Climate Change



Additional Resources



State of Israel

Sharing Israeli Innovations for Global Sustainable Development



CINADCO

Center for International Agricultural
Development Cooperation, Ministry
of Agriculture and Rural Development



MASHAV

Israel's Agency for International
Development Cooperation
Ministry of Foreign Affairs

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Sample of possibilities

- Educational settings such as preschools and high schools
- Factories, Museums and Kibutzim
- [Israel Educational Journey led by Hebrew College 2017: Welcome \(2017israelbhecec.blogspot.com\)](http://2017israelbhecec.blogspot.com)