



Grandparents TO THE RESCUE!

What YOU can do while sheltering in place during the Corona Virus

Sheltering in place and social distancing does not mean that we all have to be totally cut off from one another. During this time, we are all finding new ways to reach out and communicate with each other. There are lots of new and innovative ways we can all stay connected. Here is a list of resources and ideas geared towards grandparents, but really they can be used by anyone. Many of these ideas and resources below are intended to be fun and for entertainment purposes. They have been collected from a variety of sources.

BUT FIRST, read this article: [Staying Connected In This Time Of Social Distance](#) from the Jewish Grandparents Network, and then [JOIN THEIR GROUP](#) on Facebook.

Preschool Aged Children (2-5 years)

PJ Library has a list of [resources](#) that includes read-aloud book videos, craft projects, [Jewish music](#), podcasts for kids and adults, etc. If you haven't done so already, sign up for the PJ Library [grandparents program](#). Not only will you get special mailings and emails from PJ Library, but you will also find some great resources for grandparents on how to share your heritage and pass down traditions to the next generation. If you signed up previously and received a book, see if your grandchild has the SAME book that you have at home, and if so, read a bedtime story together virtually via FaceTime, Zoom or even over the phone.

[Shalom Sesame](#) is fun to watch together over Zoom screen-sharing.

Distract the kids for a bit in any way you can - give their quarantined parents a bit of a break. While using Zoom, FaceTime or the phone, you can create things like a puppet or music show, something the kids will focus on. Keep your expectations low in terms of how long their attention will remain.

[Caribu.com](#) is a video calling service that allows you to read digital storybooks to your family. You both see the pages turning, and your voice is broadcast. This can help keep kids' attention better than a book they can only see through a webcam.

Elementary Aged Children (K-5th Grade)

You can go [museum hopping](#).

Do [Lunch Doodles](#) together with Mo Willems, Kennedy Center Education Artist-in-Residence at Home.

See if you can join your grandchild's online classes or Zoom in for homework hour. Their parents might appreciate a tutor!

If your grandkids have a hobby or are learning a skill (music, for instance), you can help by talking about it with them, looking at their work or sitting with them virtually through FaceTime, Zoom or on the phone while they practice.

You can raise plants together! Buy the same type of seeds, plant them on the same day, then chart their growth and share by comparing the progress.

Suggested by poet [Wendy Mnookin](#): Hold classes for your grandkids - teach them poetry by FaceTime, Zoom or over the phone, maybe, at a consistent time each week. Some good resources: "[Wishes, Lies, and Dreams: Teaching Children to Write Poetry](#)" and "[Rose, Where Did You Get That Red?: Teaching Great Poetry to Children](#)," both by Kenneth Koch.

Jewish Women's Archive has a virtual online [scavenger hunt](#).

Play [BINGO](#) via FaceTime, Zoom or even over the phone.

Tweens, Teens and Older

Kveller lists [Jewish TV shows](#) to watch. You can pick a night and both watch the same show, then schedule time to discuss after viewing.

Sign them up to get FREE Jewish chapter books and graphic novels (that they choose themselves) from [PJ Our Way](#) for kids ages 8 1/2 - 12. You will need their personal information for this, so give them a call!

Share fun cooking videos and recipes featuring tweens and teens on [kosher.com](#).

You can [listen to the Metropolitan Opera](#) nightly.

There are virtual board games you can play together with your older grandchildren: Scrabble, chess, etc. You can even [play online games for learning Hebrew](#).

You can cook together - teach them a recipe as you Zoom or FaceTime into each others' kitchens, and see how each of your creations turns out! You can always have the family taste test.

You and your grandchild can [create a playlist](#) together.

You might use virtual museum tours by finding something that sparks interest in your grandchild and then conduct further research on the topic together, finding new resources all over the internet. The Rose Art Museum has [a digital collection](#) to get you started.

Listen and discuss [these feminist podcasts](#) with your grandkid!

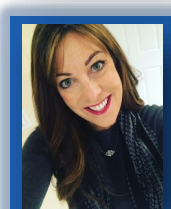
Similarly, enjoy [these activities](#) from Hadassah.

Join The Forward's [book club](#)!

Jewish National Fund has a [schedule of activities](#).

Visit jewishpalmbeach.org/coronavirus

for a variety of videos, articles, activities and online events for you & your loved ones.



As the Director of Outreach and Engagement for Jewish Federation of Palm Beach County, Amy Bergman combines her passion for literacy and her expertise in creatively designing programming to help implement and grow the community's PJ Library® program. Her love for connecting people to Jewish experiences makes her the perfect person to serve as concierge - connecting young families raising Jewish children to synagogues, Jewish schools and institutions. Amy's professional experience and connections in the community give her the tools she needs to successfully work with our partner agencies and synagogues to develop dynamic and engaging local Jewish family programs and classroom experiences. Amy can be contacted at amy.bergman@jewishpalmbeach.org.

The information and links in this post were carefully curated by Amy Bergman for the purposes of leading grandparents and their grandchildren to the original content on the respective sites.