

# OPENING THE *DOR*

**A Guide for Grandparents  
on Intergenerational Giving**

## WELCOME

*Dor* in Hebrew means “Generation”. This guide will help you explore Jewish identity, family traditions, values and charitable giving by allowing you to pass on your wisdom as grandparents, *L’dor Vador*, from generation to generation.



## ACTIVITY Item Share

Find an item with personal Jewish meaning that was given to you by a family member or someone of a different generation. Share the story connected with your item by answering these questions:

- How would you like the next generation to repeat this story and honor and remember you in its re-telling?

- Who gave you this item? Why? Was it linked to a moment or an event? Why is it special?

- What have you learned, or what story connected to this item, would you like to tell the next generation?

- What would it mean to you to pass down this item to someone else?

- What feeling would you like this item to invoke when it is passed on?

**WHY?** Judaism has many traditions around *Tzedakah* (righteous giving). This concept does not live on its own. Giving can be a meaningful and personal experience guided by our family stories, Jewish traditions and teachings. Exploring and reflecting on our own experiences and our heritage can help us to understand our own values, and what is important to pass on.



## ACTIVITY Pocket Money *Tzedakah*



When you give your grandchild their pocket money, talk to them about the issues you care about and why you give. You can reference a Jewish value that has guided your giving, such as Responsibility (*Areyvut*), Lovingkindness (*G'milut Chasadim*), or Justice (*Tzedek*). Then ask your grandchild what they care about. Challenge them to donate 10% of their pocket money to an organization of their choice. **ACTIVITY EXTENSION:** Ask all the grandchildren to make a collective decision as a family to one grant recipient organization.

### WHY?

*"You shall set aside every year a tenth part of all the yield of your sowing that is brought from the field."*

(Deuteronomy: 14, 22)

This commandment is the source for the Jewish custom to set aside 10% of one's earnings for *Tzedakah*. This principle provides us with a framework on how to give and this long-lasting tradition can still be used today. By asking your grandchildren to give some of their pocket money, you allow them to take responsibility for their own giving, while also reinforcing that it is a meaningful and valued action you want continued through the generations.

## Conversation Starters

Here are some questions to help to start a conversation about giving, *Tzedakah*, and what it means to you and your family:

What Jewish traditions do you want to pass onto your grandchildren?

What Jewish values guide your giving?\*

Share an early memory of giving that was meaningful for you.

\*There are many values, or *Middot*, in Jewish tradition. Honeycomb has identified 7 Core Values for Jewish youth philanthropy:

- Lovingkindness (*G'milut Chasadim*)
- Responsibility (*Areyvut*)
- Justice (*Tzedek*)
- Human Dignity (*Kavod*)
- Hope (*Tikvah*),
- Preservation (*Shmirah*)
- Service (*Avodah*)



Honeycomb is the leading resource for Jewish youth philanthropy. [www.honeycomb.org](http://www.honeycomb.org)



**The Sephardic  
Foundation on Aging**

*This guide was made possible with the generous support of The Sephardic Foundation On Aging.*