



Making Yadayim for Hebrew readers

Submitted by Dove Weissman

As students are practicing reading Hebrew, it is helpful to have a yad to follow along with, just as they will have when reading from the actual Torah. There are many limitations, according to Halachah, as to what material a yad can be made of when used on a Torah scroll, primarily having to do with certain metals. Check with your rabbi.

If the yad is not going to be used on an actual Torah, any material can be used. Wooden dowels with chamshahs, filo dough or other hardening clays can be used. We used recycled telephone wire to construct the yadayim. Resource 2000 in Boulder has a variety of recycled materials. We opened the plastic coating around the wires, and then used the colorful small wires to twist and bend into a yad. Each student created their own according to preference; however encourage them to make the tip like a finger. Students then use their yadayim throughout the year for practicing Torah study. If the students books are stored somewhere in the classroom, keep the yadayim with the students other supplies, so they may use them each time they are reading Hebrew.