



Passover Breakout EDU Leader's Guide - Overview

Looking for something different to enliven your Seder? This Passover Breakout Box is the answer! Based on Breakout EDU (a platform which takes the concept of a breakout room and makes it accessible in an educational environment, swapping the room for a box and the content from random puzzles for themed activities), this Passover Breakout box was designed to hold participants' attention during the first ten steps of the Seder. Each puzzle is based on a Passover theme. Solve each mystery for the code to open a lock. Each lock opened gets participants one step closer to unlocking the box. You can use all five puzzles – and the corresponding locks – or choose the ones you think best suit your participants.

Though this box was created with a Seder in mind, it can be easily adapted for classroom use. Some of the puzzles can be used as Passover stations, others as team building exercises, or competitive or cooperative games.

When we first envisioned this breakout box, we were sure that, instead of hiding the afikoman, we would ask Seder service leaders to hide a key. This key lock would be the last lock; and, once the key was found, the afikoman could be taken from the box and the Seder could come to its natural conclusion.

Then we changed our minds. Many people have cherished family traditions surrounding the afikoman and may not want to change them. And not everyone ends their Seder at the same step. What we were sure of is that the vast majority of people celebrating Passover have a festive meal, and many of them are looking for ways to enliven the liturgy and encourage participation before the meal begins.

So, if you don't put the afikoman in the box, what goes inside? A few ideas:

- 1) Something you need to begin the meal:
 - Soup spoons
 - Salad dressing
 - Oven mitts
 - Serving spoons
 - Your grandma's chopped eggs or chopped liver
- 2) Something to end the meal. Just because you solve the puzzles before the meal doesn't mean you must open the box at that moment.
 - Candy
 - Sponge cake
 - Macaroons
 - The afikoman!
- 3) Prizes. You might think of giving a small toy or trinket to everyone who participated.
 - Frog key chains
 - Chocolate lollipops or other Passover treats
- 4) A prayer or song or poem written by you especially for this occasion.



Passover Breakout EDU Leader's Guide - Overview

Don't have an official Breakout EDU box? No worries! Any box large enough to hold what you've decided to include that allows for multiple locks (or a hasp) to be affixed at the same time will work (think tool box or large box with 2 zippers with large eyes that come together). The box pictured was from a *free gift with make-up* offer! Locks may be purchased at a local hardware or big box store.



Here is an overview of the 5 puzzles that make up the Passover Breakout Box:

Title/Topic	Puzzle Type	Lock/Answer
Which Way Did They Go?	Mapping challenge using Biblical references to chart the Israelites journey out of Egypt; from slavery to freedom.	Directional/ ↓ → ↓ ↑ S - E - S - N
The 10 Plagues Wheel	Matching game – Two versions of this matching game are offered. A picture matching for pre-readers and a picture-to-Hebrew vocabulary match for older participants.	Key/ Leader must verify answer before giving key to participants
Three Sides to This Story	Pyramid building, unscrambling key concept sentences and finding hidden numbers all contribute to finding the opening numbers.	Three Number / 613
Passover Poem	Track numbers that correspond to different parts of the Seder to answer this riddle and open the lock.	Four Number / 3263
Three of These are Not Like the Others	A question and answer game (based on the popular game, HedBanz) that has participants searching for the 3 items that should be mentioned at a Seder and finishes with a hidden message that must be deciphered with the help of a pocket mirror.	4 Letter / EACH

Each of the 5 puzzles, with corresponding instructions and graphics, is a separate download. Open each file, see what fits for your gathering.

TIP FOR ORGANIZING: As you prepare each puzzle, place all the supplies for that puzzle into a separate, large envelop. If participants will be asked to solve puzzles in a particular order, number the envelops accordingly.



Passover Breakout EDU Leader's Guide - Overview

Not sure how to introduce this adventure to your guests? You might read, or print and hide, an introductory "teaser" in the Haggadah. Here is one suggestion...

Tonight we celebrate our departure from Egypt. We have packed up all our valuables and hastily prepared our bread. With friends and family, we will discuss the Exodus and what it means to us and we will enjoy a celebratory meal. However, we do have a slight problem. In the haste to get out of Egypt, something important that we need for our Seder has been locked away. Luckily, we know that it is inside this box. Now, we need to figure out how to open the locks so that we can enjoy our delicious food. I am told that all these locks can be opened by solving puzzles that will yield clues to the locks' combinations. I am also told that clues to solving the puzzles can be found throughout the Seder, so pay close attention to the Haggadah and the rituals surrounding it to solve the puzzles, open the locks, and save our Seder. The redemption of our stomachs depends on it.

Chag Pesach Sameach!