



Passover Breakout EDU Leader's Guide - Overview

Section 1 – Using Breakout Breakout Boxes in the Classroom

What is Breakout.EDU?

You may have heard of Escape Rooms—actual (as opposed to virtual) rooms where a group, usually ranging from 6-12 participants, work together to solve a series of puzzles in order to “break out” in an allotted time, often an hour. If successful, participants pose with signs that say, “We did it!” etc.; if they fail, they pose with negative but good-humored signs. Breakout EDU brings the concept of breakout rooms into the classroom. Participants are given a series of puzzles, with each answer opening a different lock on a box or bag. The puzzles, taken together, are known as a “breakout.” Instead of gaining their freedom, if successful, students open all of the locks on the box and claim the prize inside.

In public school classrooms, breakouts are frequently used for review. Subject matter is only limited by what is taught in that setting. You can find breakouts created by teachers in many categories at [Breakout Edu](#). In the Jewish supplemental classroom, breakouts are often used to teach new material as opposed to being a vehicle for review.

There is no set number of puzzles in a breakout; the amount might be determined by the number of locks available, the amount of time allotted, or the age and/or ability of the participants. The genre of puzzles is often varied—as is the case in this breakout—to capitalize on different skills and abilities of participants. A student who excels in math reasoning, for instance, and one who is skilled in remembering details will both contribute to their team's success.

Options for Using Breakouts in the Classroom

Puzzles work best when 4-6 participants work together to solve them.

In the best case, you will have one complete set of puzzles and one box for every 4-6 students. In this scenario, students can solve puzzles collaboratively, or split up the puzzles and work in smaller groups. If this isn't the case, you have a few options:

- A) If you have enough puzzles for each group to get a full set, but only one box with locks:
 - Have students record their answers on the answer sheet (included) and try to open the locks as a group to end the program.
 - Give groups of students the same puzzle and have them work competitively or cooperatively to solve it.
- B) If you don't have enough puzzles:
 - Give each group one puzzle and have the whole class work to complete the puzzles as a team, each group completing one puzzle and unlocking one lock.
 - Give each group one puzzle but, instead of opening the corresponding lock, have them write down their answer. Rotate puzzles. When each team has completed each puzzle, see if their answers open the lock.
 - Use the puzzles as part of a larger program using "stations."



Passover Breakout EDU

Leader's Guide - Overview

The students know that they're solving puzzles to get a prize. You know that in the process of solving puzzles, they're learning about Passover. The more puzzles a team works through, the more knowledge they are able to unlock.

A few notes on running a program:

- When splitting students into groups, be mindful of their strengths. The groups will be more successful if each one includes an organizer and a thorough reader.
- Consider assigning a group leader for each group or assigning this role to a teenage *madrich/a* (teaching assistant).
- This program requires the teacher or facilitator to walk among groups checking on progress and helping students where necessary.
- We have included a number of hint cards. If a group is stumped, they can hand the teacher or classroom leader one of these cards to get a hint. The hints are at your discretion based on what they need to succeed. Remember, the goal is two-fold: that they unlock the box and that they learn.
- To keep momentum going, you may want to put time limits on each puzzle.
- If you are using one box for several groups, print a Lock Recorder page for each group so they can record their answers.

Section 2 – Passover Breakout Box Information

Box Description

Our original Passover Breakout Box was designed to hold participants' attention during the first ten steps of the Seder. It has been adapted here for classroom use, though it is still perfect for use during a model or family seder. (The original five puzzle box, which was written for a group with mixed ages and abilities, is still available at JTeach.org.) This version features four puzzles. 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. Choose the puzzles you think best suit your participants.

Don't have an official Breakout EDU box? No worries! Any box large enough to hold what you've decided to include as a prize (we're partial to plastic frogs) 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.





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Here is an overview of the 4 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.	5-letter (directional)/ E-S-E-S-N.
The 10 Plagues Wheel	Matching game – A picture-to-Hebrew vocabulary match for participants who are Hebrew readers.	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
Three of These are Not Like the Others	Concentration card game, searching for the 3 items that should be mentioned at a Seder, hidden message that must be deciphered with the help of a pocket mirror.	4 Letter / EACH

Each of the 4 puzzles, with corresponding instructions and graphics, is a separate download. Open each file and see what fits for your gathering.

The Challenge

To begin the program, you'll need to set forth a challenge. The challenge is really a set-induction, explaining why they will be doing what they will be doing – in this case, solving puzzles to open a box. Remember to set forth a problem based on what you have hidden in the box.

Still not sure how to introduce this adventure to your students? You might read, or print and hide, an introductory “teaser” in a textbook or a haggadah you plan to study that day. Here's one suggestion...

Today we are going to learn about the Jewish people's departure from Egypt. They packed up all their valuables and hastily prepared their bread. Today, we will discuss the Exodus and what it means to us. But, we have a small problem. In the haste to get out of Egypt, something important that we need for our lesson has been locked away in the luggage. Luckily, we know that it is inside this box. Now, we need to figure out how to open the locks so that we can get ready for Passover. I'm told that all these locks can be opened by solving puzzles that will give us clues to the locks' combinations. Find the answers, or we may never get to the afikoman!



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Prepare

- Download the puzzles and supporting materials from JTeach.org. There are some which need to be copied and cut out. Consider laminating the materials, especially if they will be used by more than one group.
- Set all of the locks.
- Follow preparation instructions specific to each puzzle, found in the notes below.
- **Hint Cards, We Did It** sheet (may go in the box instead of a prize) and **Lock Recorder** printouts are located at the end of this document; photocopy the images onto cardstock.

TIP FOR ORGANIZING: As you prepare each puzzle, place all the supplies for that puzzle into a separate, large envelope. If you want students to solve puzzles in a particular order, number the envelopes accordingly.

You will need to gather or purchase:

- A box or bag (large makeup bags work) that can hold a hasp
- A hasp and four locks: key, four-digit, five-letter, three-digit
- Dry erase markers and an eraser (if you plan to laminate pieces and use multiple times)
- Toothpicks
- A prize or prizes to put inside the box. Toy frogs are available in bulk at orientaltrading.com. You might also consider buying some iconic Passover candy, such as candy fruit slices, which are conveniently nut and gluten free.
- Pens and paper
- A timer if you choose to limit the amount of time to complete the puzzles

Chag Pesach Sameach!



Hint Card



Hint Card



Hint Card



Hint Card



Hint Card



Hint Card



Hint Card



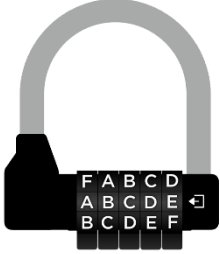



Hint Card



Lock Up Your Codes!



 <p>4-Letter Lock</p>	
 <p>3-Digit Lock</p>	
 <p>5-Letter Lock</p>	
 <p>Key Lock</p>	



YAY!

We figured it out!

WE ARE FREE!