Talking About Death and Dying: A Webinar for Educators
April 1, 2020

Featuring:
Rabbi Melanie Levav - Director of PJ Library New York
Rabbi Dena Klein - Managing Director, New Models (Leadership Initiatives)
WELCOME

Please introduce yourself in the chat box (be sure to change the TO: setting to include presenters and participants) by sharing your name, organization, and location.
Talking About Death & Dying

“…existence embraces both life and death, and in a way death is the test of the meaning of life. If death is devoid of meaning, then life is absurd. Life’s ultimate meaning remains obscure unless it is reflected upon in the face of death.

…There is a slowness, a delay, a neglect on our part to think about it. For the subject is not exciting, but rather strange and shocking.   --Abraham Joshua Heschel

Trauma Informed Approach

• Trauma Informed Care:
  • A framework that emphasizes
    • Physical
    • Psychological
    • Emotional
    safety for both providers and consumers.
  • Helps survivors rebuild a sense of empowerment
  • Acknowledges that people carry trauma throughout life
Age Appropriate Information

- Answer questions being asked
- Recognize that children will learn from other sources
- Share proactively when appropriate
- Be present and patient
Understanding Death

1. Irreversible: death is permanent

2. Final: all functioning stops with death

3. Inevitable: death is universal for all living things

4. Causality: what causes death
Resources for Talking to Kids


https://sesamestreetincommunities.org/topics/grief/

https://modernloss.com/6-tips-for-talking-to-kids-about-death/
Resources for Grown-Ups

https://jccmanhattan.org/what-matters

https://deathoverdinner-jewishedition.org/

https://fivewishes.org/Home
On Complicated/Traumatic Grief

https://complicatedgrief.columbia.edu/professionals/complicated-grief-professionals/overview/

https://www.nctsn.org/what-is-child-trauma/trauma-types/traumatic-grief
THANK YOU