SHOW ME THE WAY TO GET TO MY B’NAI MITZVAH DAY
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What do we know about B’nai Mitzvah anyway?

- Automatic for a girl at age 12
- Bat Mitzvah – daughter of the commandment
- Automatic for a boy at 13
- Bar Mitzvah – son of the commandment
The current custom is to celebrate with family and friends.
The B’nai Mitzvah ceremony varies from community to community –

- Reform
- Reconstruction
- Conservative
- Orthodox
- Hasidic
And from synagogue to synagogue within a community
Variations can be due to:

- Size of congregation
- Whether there is a cantor or no cantor
- Rabbi’s and their priorities
What has my experience been?
What do we need to consider when it is time to schedule a student for their B’nai Mitzvah and the student is a differently abled learner
Differently abled learners are not always easy to spot

- Students with visible disabilities
- Students with non-visible disabilities
Considerations.........?

- What time of the year is best to schedule the date to allow for optimum learning
- Family dynamic
- Summer schedules
Where to start……

- The 1st step is to have a conversation with the family including the student to find out:
  - About the student
  - Cognitive levels
  - Learning styles
  - Adaptations that are used in the student’s school environment
Where to start……

- The 2nd step is to speak with religious school teachers to get information about what worked or didn’t work in the religious school classes.
Preparation and expectations are going to vary based on the personality and characteristics of the student.

- It is extremely important to work toward the student’s strengths
Adapting Materials

- This is based on the student’s learning style
Effective adaptations include:

- Adjusting size of font
- Controlling the amount of Hebrew on a page
- Transliterate
- Color coding
- Music
- Providing recordings/videos
Adonai
Ha'olam
Va'atzon
Baruch

Ata
Melech
Elohaynu

Ba'remet vo'tov
Ke'd'sha nel
Ah shure

Ba tree treet
L'heat ah tafe
Y'tze va'ana
וּהֱתָנֹ֥ת נִשְׁפָּתָ֑ךְ כַּלָּתָךְ
וֹדֵ֥ד v' ha you
לַחֲמִ֖ם la hem
אַשְׁרֵ֣י ah sue
וְזֹאֵ֑ת v' zoat
וֹלָ֥א Một b' geesh ton
בָּנֶשְׁתּוּן ya moo too
אַדָּ֖ת v' low
כַּדָּ֑ו o vav nav
אֲוַעֲנָא v'ha roan
חַאֲה da sheem koe desh
וֹבֵרֵ֥נָא v' sha moo
אַעֲשֶׁ֣י ya voo oo
אִנָּיְתָ֖ו el can
וֹרֲדֵ֥ה v'el
וֹלֶ֖ע ma sah oh
וַאֲלָה ah voo da toe
אֱלֹהִ֑ים ahl
BLESSING BEFORE THE READING OF THE TORAH

Bar'chu et Adonai ham'svorach.
Baruch Adonai ham'svorach l'olam va-ed.
Baruch atah, Adonai
Eloheinu, Melech ha'olam,
asher barchu banu mikol ha'amim,
v'natan lanu et Toroto.
Baruch atah, Adonai, neshein ha'Torah.

BLESS ADONAI who is blessed.
Blessed is Adonai who is blessed now and forever.
Blessed are You, Adonai our God, Sovereign of the universe, who has chosen us from among the peoples, and given us the Torah. Blessed are You, Adonai, who gives the Torah.

BLESSING AFTER THE READING OF THE TORAH

Baruch atah, Adonai
Eloheinu, Melech ha'olam,
asher natan lanu Torat emet,
v'chayei olam neshein ha'Torah.
Baruch atah, Adonai, neshein ha'Torah.

BLESSED ARE YOU, Adonai our God, Sovereign of the universe, who has given us a Torah of truth, implanting within us eternal life.
Blessed are You, Adonai, who gives the Torah.
Watch for signs of the student getting overloaded
English Supplementary Readings

- Create own
- Make sure the reading is at the appropriate reading level for the student
Dvar Torah

- Is it a speech?
- Is it a model or construction?
- Is it a video or slide presentation?
Prayer Book
Supports