L’dor vador: Storytelling for the holiday cycle in a Jewish early childhood setting

Krista Bogetich, Bank Street College of Education

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Abstract
Storytelling is an effective and appropriate method of engaging young children in complex concepts such as values and ethics. This paper provides rationale for using storytelling in an early childhood setting, background information on Jewish holidays, and highlights the values in the stories told during those holidays. It includes synopses of stories told through original storytelling, descriptions of activities incorporated in the experiences, as well as children’s responses and photographs of children’s work.

Recommended Citation

Earlier this month, the current Fed Fellows cohort had the opportunity to participate in a private tour of the From Generation to Generation: Inherited Memory and Contemporary Art exhibit at the Contemporary Jewish Museum. Though the artists featured came from a wide range of backgrounds – some Jewish, some not – they were bound by their haunting “postmemories” resulting from the powerful personal and cultural trauma inherited from previous generations. The notion that rituals and philosophies are passed down l’dor vador – from generation to generation – permeates Jewish culture.