HOW TO CREATE AND LEAD

## Discussion Groups

- Divide class into small groups (3-4 students per group) and distribute Discussion Logs to each member. Prepare and distribute related materials (Tanach, selected text, image, passage and commentary, etc.) as needed.
- Each group member reads the question prompts (three total), reflects on the issue presented, and responds with a prediction in the space provided on the log. During this stage, students work independently. *Time: 5-7 minutes.*
- Taking turns, group members share a prediction made about one of the discussion prompts. Only one student can speak at a time; the other group members actively listen. Students can record the predictions of other group members that resonate with them. Space is provided for this at the bottom of the Discussion Log. Teachers may choose to assign a speaking order or use a prop as a "speaker's microphone" that is passed from one group member to the next. The rotation continues until each member has a chance to share out. During this stage, the teacher moves from group to group, monitoring progress and facilitating further discussion, as needed. *Time: 5 minutes*.
- The teacher brings each group together for whole-class discussion. Students share predictions from their home groups as the teacher arranges the information in real-time using a graphic organizer (flow chart, spider map, etc.). To reinforce the collaborative nature of discussion, students who wish to share their own predictions must first cite the prediction of a fellow group member. *Time: 10 minutes.*
- Groups reconvene for a final reflection in which they identify running themes, connections between different points of view, and applications to daily life. *Time: 5 minutes*.

