

Name: _____

Date: _____

Rosh Hodesh Planning Worksheet

Directions:

In the time of the Mishnah, the Sanhedrin used huge, flaming torches (as tall as trees) and messengers to make sure that Jewish people everywhere knew when to celebrate Rosh Hodesh, the beginning of a new Jewish month. Now, that is our class's job. For the rest of the year, the class will be in charge of announcing to the school when it is time for Rosh Hodesh. One group will take the lead each month. Please use this worksheet to plan how your group will announce Rosh Hodesh when it is your turn.

A. AS A GROUP, brainstorm at least 5 things you learned about deciding and announcing Rosh Hodesh (for example, how did people know it was Rosh Hodesh in the time of the Mishnah? How did they announce Rosh Hodesh in the time of the Mishnah? How is Rosh Hodesh connected to the moon? How is Rosh Hodesh currently announced in our synagogue?).

B. ON YOUR OWN, circle the item on your brainstorming list that YOU find most interesting or important. What can you do to remind the class of this idea when you are announcing Rosh Hodesh? If you answer yes to any of the following questions, write your answer on the line next to the question. If you answer no, go on to the next question.

Is there something you can sing? _____

Is there something you can say? _____

Is there something you can do? _____

Is there a food you can give them? _____

Is there something you can show them? _____

Is there a prayer to say? _____

Is there something special you can wear? _____

C. Share the ideas that you listed in Part B with the rest of your group. As a group, pick 1-3 ideas to use when it is your group's turn to announce the new Rosh Hodesh. Write your plan here:

What materials do you need to announce Rosh Hodesh in this way?

Write down the name of each person in your group. Next to each name, describe what s/he is doing to help implement the group's plan:
