

## Honi the Circle-drawer and a 70 year Time Capsule

Honi ha-M'agel or Honi the Circle-drawer was a renowned Jewish scholar.

“One day, he (Honi) was walking along the road when he saw a certain man planting a carob tree. Honi said to him: This tree, after how many years will it bear fruit? The man said to him: It will not produce fruit until seventy years have passed. Honi said to him: Is it obvious to you that you will live seventy years, that you expect to benefit from this tree? The man said to him: I myself found a world full of carob trees. Just as my ancestors planted for me, I too am planting for my descendants. Honi sat and ate bread. Sleep overcame him and he slept. A cliff formed around him, and he disappeared from sight and slept for seventy years. When he awoke, he saw a certain man gathering carobs from that tree. Honi said to him: Are you the one who planted this tree? The man said to him: I am his son’s son. Honi said to him: I can learn from this that I have slept for seventy years”. (Talmud Bavli, Ta’anit 23:71)



<https://youtu.be/hRfV7XrGfBo>

Just as parents and grandparents of the carob planter planted trees for him, he is planting trees for his children and grandchildren so they will be able to eat the fruit of these trees.

### **Activity details:**

#### **Part 1 – Each class individually**

1. Split up into groups of 2-4 students in each group, consider what are the fruits you received from the generations that proceeded you, and what fruit would you like to leave for the generations that will follow?  
List 3-5 fruits that you received and 3-5 fruits that you would like to leave behind.
2. The activity is performed on a collaborative board, we recommend using Tri Cider, like this one - <http://www.tricider.com/brainstorming/3HnHid2HmgF>  
You can create two boards – one for fruits received and one for fruits you would like to pass on.
3. Students are encouraged to comment on and ask questions about what their friends listed.
4. As a class, vote on the top 5 fruits you want to leave behind, and 5 fruits you think were the best fruits to have received.
5. Send the list of these 10 fruits to your twinned class.

#### **Part 2 – Joined activity**

1. Read through the list you received from your twinned class. Is it similar to the list you created? Did you find differences? What were they?
2. What can you learn about the lifestyle, the values of the twinned class?
3. Following the conversation, are there any fruits you would now add to your list – either to receive or to leave behind you?