

---

# WHAT'S IN A NAME?

---

## Learning Goals

1. NCSYers will understand the value of a Jewish name.
2. NCSYers will think about their own Jewish name.

### Advisor Toolbox:

#### ACTIVITIES/GAMES

- Ready...Set...Reveal!

#### VIDEOS/ARTICLES

- Key & Peele – Substitute Teacher - <https://tinyurl.com/NamesKeyPeele>

#### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- Have you ever used a fake name? Why? (Maybe at Starbucks?)
- Where does your name come from? Where you named for somebody?

## Activities/Hooks

- Read...Set...Reveal
  - You'll need a large bed sheet as a barrier between the two teams.
  - Split into two groups on either side of the sheet. Each team sends a single representative. Count to 3 and the bed sheet drops! The participants have to yell out the name of their opponent.
  - First one to call out the right name wins and gets a new player on their team.
  - The game continues until every player is on one team.

## A Little Explanation

1. The Key and Peele video is a fun way to start out the conversation about names and their value.
2. The article from Freakonomics is not so easily readable but the message is powerful, so prepare it well before and skim through with the teens.
3. To answer the questions about choosing names, source 2 would suggest destiny comes first and you fulfill it and we always try to choose good names but that doesn't mean a person cannot overcome his "destiny" the fact that there is Divine inspiration in the naming still does not take away a parent's ability to choose the name they like and therefore similarly, a person has inspiration on his destiny through his name, but he can choose how he lives.
4. A change in name is almost like a change in identity. As we will discuss soon, the identity of the Jewish people in Egypt was maintained through keeping their names.
5. The source about the types of names should help wrap this all together so you don't want to skip it: **whatever you are called, it is your "name" i.e. your reputation that counts.**