

A World of First Class Middos

קוני עולם



Konei Olam.



A MIDDOS DEVELOPMENT CURRICULUM

Touring the World to First Class Middos

KONEI OLAM קוני עולם



קוני עולם
KONEI OLAM
A World of First Class Middos

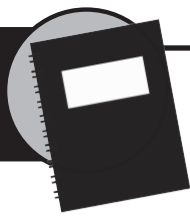
Timetable

	Week	Tip	Location/Sticker	Contest
Zerizus France	1	Say Modeh Ani properly	Paris	
	2	Value other people's time	French Wine	Yes
	3	Say a ברכה אחרונה right away	Troyes - Rashi	Yes
	4	Respond to requests of parents immediately	Eiffel Tower	
Emes England	5	Hashem watches you, so don't mislead anyone	London	
	6	Own up if you did something wrong	Double-Decker Bus	
	7	Don't exaggerate	Manchester- R' Segal zt"l	Yes
	8	Return what doesn't belong to you	Big Ben	
Savlanus Canada	9	Wait your turn patiently	Ottawa	
	10	Raise your hand patiently	Beaver	
	11	Say ברכת המזון properly	Toronto	Yes
	12	Keep calm when things don't go your way	Niagara Falls	
Chessed United States	13	Ask a family member how you can help them	Washington DC	Yes
	14	Offer assistance without being asked	Dollar	
	15	Include others who are being left out	Lakewood -Beth M. Govoha	
	16	Share with others	Statue of Liberty	
Kibud HorimUmorim Australia	17	Listen to requests of parents right away	Canberra	Yes
	18	Fulfill requests cheerfully	Kangaroo	
	19	Don't interrupt parents or teachers	Melbourne	
	20	Phrase requests respectfully	Statue of Liberty	

Simcha China	21	Do your pre-Yom Tov chores happily	Giant Panda	
	22	Try to view the positive in every situation	Shanghai	

Noseh B'ol Russia	23	Try to help someone who is upset or hurt	Moscow	Yes
	24	Think about a sick person's suffering and say תהלים	Babooshka Dolls	
	25	Visit / call someone who can use encouragement	Siberia	
	26	If someone is uncomfortable, don't stare or ask questions	Trans-Siberian Railroad	

Hakoras Hatov Eretz Yisrael	29	Recognize Hashem's goodness: Say ברוך ה'	Yerushalayim	
	32	Show appreciation for the kindness others do for you	Kosel	



INTRODUCTION

Hi! My name is Yoni. I'm a pretty ordinary kid. I brush my teeth, I go to school, and I love pizza and ice cream. I'm actually a little bit shy about being in this book you're all reading. But I guess my life is just a tiny bit different, and that's why the Chofetz Chaim Heritage Foundation asked me to appear in these pages. You see, I love to travel. Some people enjoy collecting stamps, or painting, or playing the piano. I enjoy trekking around the world, learning exciting things and seeing unusual sights.

I'm embarking on my newest trip. And guess what?! You will be able to join in on all the fun and adventure! Every week, I'll send you a live update from the country I am visiting. That way, you can learn about each place and see the sights along with me. Just leave all the hard work to me.

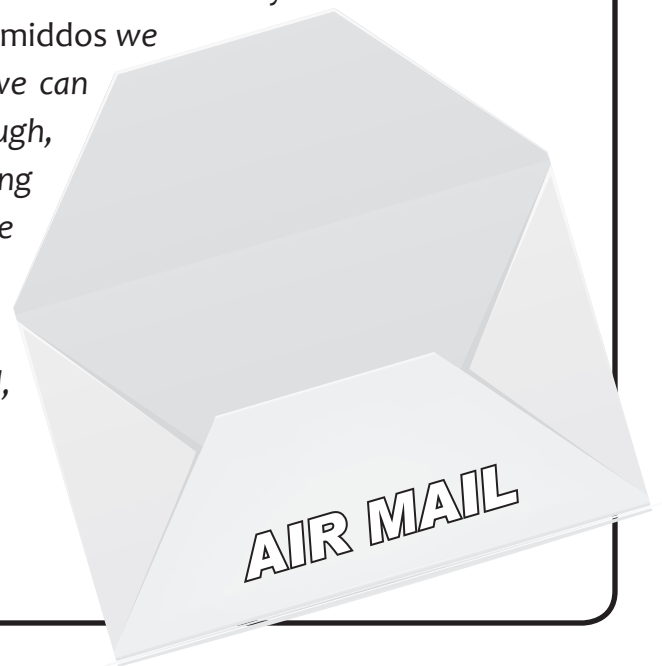
At this point you may be wondering: why, if it's such hard work, are you leaving your normal, simple life to go country-hopping? Getting off one airplane just to board another, missing out on learning, friends, and sleep- what's the point?

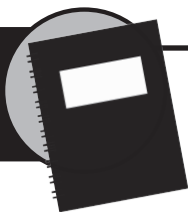
These are all very good questions, and don't worry, I have a very good answer. The only problem is that the answer is a big secret, and I intend to keep it that way until the very, very end. All I can tell you now is that the answer will inspire you and make you smile. One thing you should know about me, though, is that as much as I love secrets, I have a very hard time keeping them. So, knowing me, you can be sure I'll be dropping hints all the way through my travels. For now, let's just say that my mission is an important one, and I hope to accomplish it properly.

Now, get ready to join me on an exciting adventure to explore eight fascinating countries, where we will experience all the remarkable sights and sounds each country has to offer. Even more exciting are the eight valuable middos we will discover along the way, and we will learn how we can apply them to our own lives. By the time we're through, you and I are going to have a suitcase full of interesting souvenirs—and precious middos that will make us true ovdei Hashem.

Get ready, get set, we're going on the most wonderful journey ever! Hashem's wonderful world, here we come — full speed ahead!

Yoni





Wheww, France is really a sight, especially for someone like me who's never been here before. Hearing everyone speak French makes things kind of funny, because I'm never sure what they're really saying.

Last night, we took a special train from the airport right to the capital city of France, which is Paris. Paris is an interesting and beautiful city with lots of tourist sites, but to tell you the truth, the only thing I was interested in touring was my dreams! I was so exhausted from the plane trip that all I wanted to do was sleep late. In the morning, as I lay in bed with my alarm clock blaring, I suddenly remembered that France would be the perfect place to practice my middah of... zerizus, acting quickly to do what Hashem wants.

Zerizus, especially when you're really, really tired, is a hard middah to practice, but let me tell you something. I pushed away my wish to sleep, jumped up in bed, and the first thing I said was Modeh Ani. Modeh Ani has great meaning for me every day when I wake up. Today, for example, I am grateful to Hashem for giving me a safe trip in the airplane, for giving me a soft bed to sleep in, and for giving me a whole new day of opportunities. You know, now that I started my day with such enthusiasm, I feel like I have so much energy; I'm sure I'll be able to accomplish a lot today.

For now, after davening I think I may try out one of those delicious-looking French croissants. Zerizus can really make you hungry!

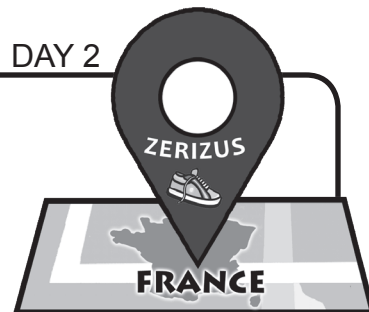
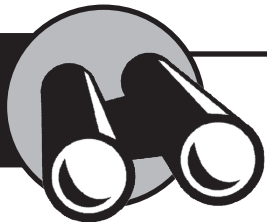


TOURIST TIP

If you start your day with energy and excitement, it will lead to even more energy throughout your day!

This week, start each day with zerizus. As soon as you wake up, say Modeh Ani with excitement.

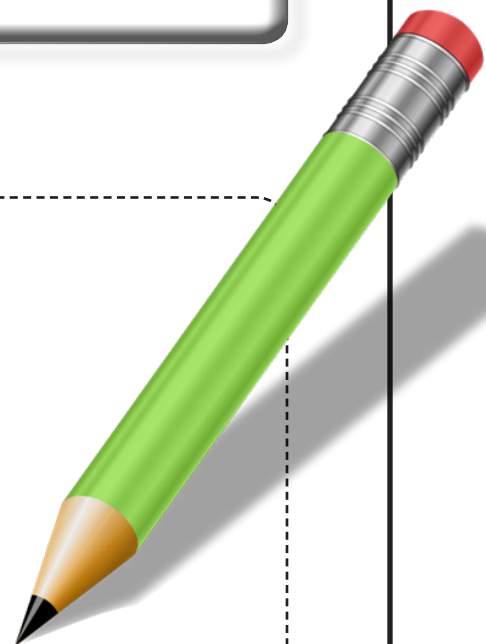


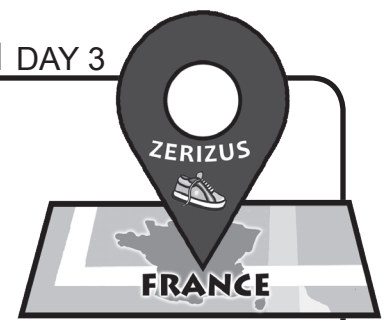


יְתַגַּבֵּר כְּאֵרִי לְעִמָּד בַּבֹּקֶר
לְעִבּוּדַת בּוֹרְאוֹ (שֶׁלֹּחַן עֲרוּךְ)

HE SHOULD STRENGTHEN HIMSELF LIKE A LION TO RISE
IN THE MORNING FOR THE SERVICE OF HIS CREATOR.

DRAWING BOARD





AN EARLY RISER

Adapted from "Touched by a Story," Vol. III, by Rabbi Yechiel Spero, with permission from the copyright holders, ArtScroll/Mesorah Publications, Ltd.

In the wee hours of the morning, Rav Mordechai Leib HaKohen Kaminetzki zt"l could be seen walking the streets of the Shaarei Chesed neighborhood of Yerushalayim. It was the early part of the 20th century, and Rav Mordechai Leib was a familiar sight in the area. With his lantern in his hand, he would light up the dark streets of the neighborhood as he went along his way. Often, as early as 2 a.m. in the morning, he would already be in the *beis midrash* learning. Perhaps what was most amazing about this elderly *talmid chacham* was that even as he grew older, he still kept to this difficult schedule. This continued even after Rav Mordechai Leib celebrated his 96th birthday!

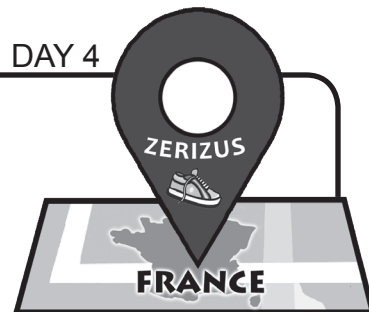
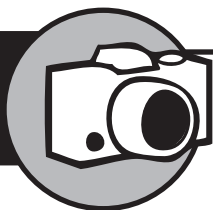
Rav Shalom Schwadron zt"l once asked him about his difficult early-morning routine, and Rav Mordechai Leib answered, "Every night I go to sleep, but the first time my sleep is interrupted, instead of going back to sleep, I get out of bed and go to learn in the *beis midrash*."

"You see, when I was a young man, I came down with a life-threatening illness. It was so bad that the doctors gave up hope. They were just about ready to give up on saving my life when, miraculously, I started to improve. Eventually, I became completely better."

"And now," he said, with a small smile on his lips, "when I wake up in the wee hours of the morning, I am thrilled to have the opportunity to live another day. Do you think that I can just go back to sleep? I am thankful that I can get out of bed. And it is this thought that pushes me every morning, no matter what, to go as early as I can to the *beis midrash*."

QUESTIONS

1. What was unusual about Reb Mordechai Leib Kaminetzki?
2. How did Reb Mordechai Leib explain his reason for getting up so early in the morning?



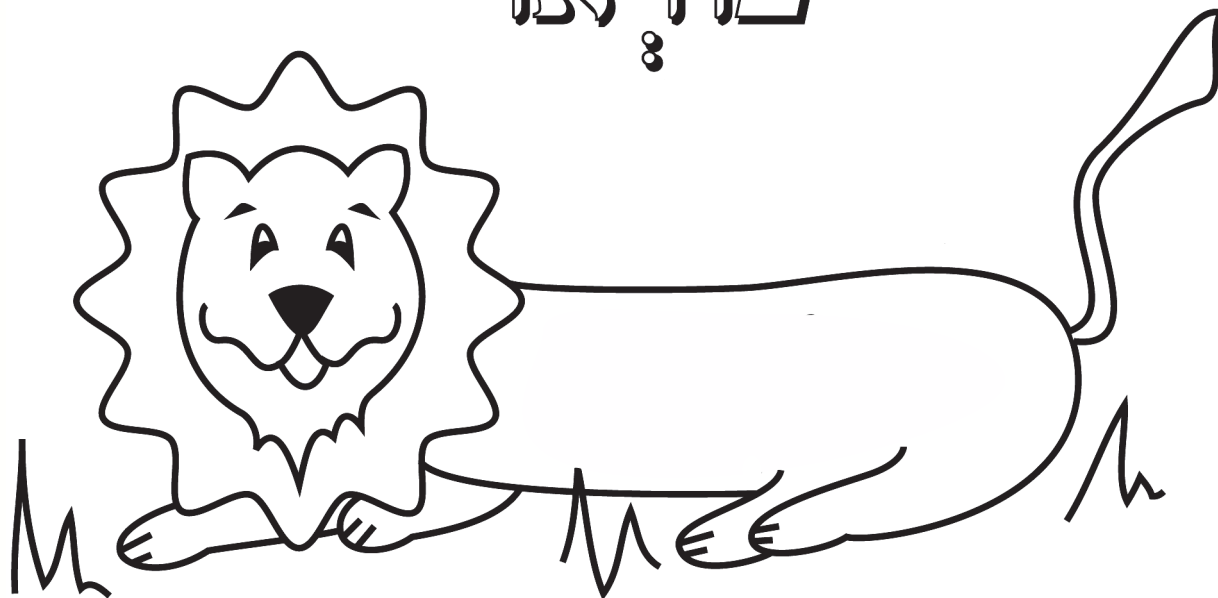
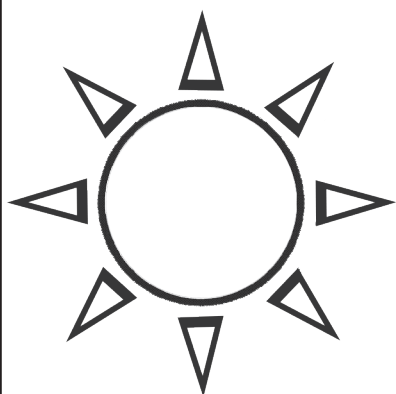
Color the Poster!

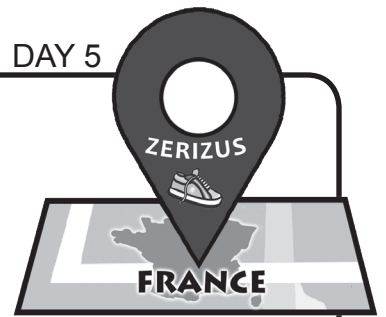
יִתְגַּבֵּר כְּאֲרִי

לְעֵמֶל בַּבֶּקֶר

לְעֵבֹדָה

בֹּרְאוֹ





QUESTION:

What are some things I can tell myself in order to help me start my day with enthusiasm?

TEACHER'S GUIDE

TOURIST TIP



If you start your day with energy and excitement, it will lead to even more energy throughout your day! This week, as soon as you wake up, say *Modeh Ani* with excitement.

LOOKOUT POINT



יְתִגְבֵּר כְּאֵרִי לְעֹמֵד בַּבֶּקֶר לְעִבּוּדַת בּוֹרְאִי (שְׁלַח עֲרֹךְ)

ONE SHOULD BE STRONG AS A LION TO RISE IN THE MORNING TO DO THE WILL OF HIS CREATOR.

Lesson Plan:

This is the very first *halachah* written in the *Shulchan Aruch*.

- Which animal is the king of all the animals? *The lion.*
- Why is he the king? *Because he is strong and not afraid of any other being.*
- What do you think the *halachah* means when it says we should be strong? In what way should we be strong? *In fighting our yetzer hara.*
- What might our yetzer hara tell us in the morning? *Turn over and go back to sleep.*
- How can we be strong and fight it? *Jump out of bed right away with zerizus.*
- Why is it so important to start our day with zerizus? *This will have an effect on the whole day—we'll have zerizus for everything we need to do.*

FROM THE
KONEI OLAM
MAGAZINE



AN EARLY RISER Questions and Answers

1. What was unusual about Reb Mordechai Leib Kaminetzki? *He would go to the beis midrash to learn very early in the morning, even as he got older.*
2. How did Reb Mordechai Leib explain his reason for getting up so early in the morning? *When he was younger, he got very sick and almost died. From then on, when he would wake up very early in the morning, he was so thankful for another day to serve Hashem, that he would jump out of bed right away.*

SIGHTSEEING & ACTIVITIES



LION POSTER Instructions

Have the students color the poster. Discuss its meaning. Suggest that the students hang the poster over their beds so that they can read it as soon as they open up their eyes in the morning.

MY JOURNEY JOURNAL



What are some things I can tell myself in order to help me start my day with enthusiasm?

