

# **Eight Steps to Being a Great CHAI Teacher**

*Written by Marlene Myerson RJE*

1. CHAI is a great curriculum BUT it is not written in stone.
2. Read your lesson plan on Monday night and start thinking....
3. Think about whether or not it will work with your class. If parts of the lesson need to be adapted, DO IT!
4. Think about whether or not the lesson will work with particular students who have special learning needs. If it needs to be modified, DO IT!
5. Think about whether or not you can actually teach the lesson in 60 minutes. If not, what can you change or eliminate? You can either shorten the lesson or turn it into a two-part series.
6. Try to keep the original goals of the lesson in mind (Enduring Understandings and Essential Questions) so that the students come away learning the main idea of the lesson.
7. Remember that Religious School is often the only place where some children can feel good about themselves, feel part of a community and experience success.
8. Always remember that you are doing holy work. You are helping to create the next generation of the Jewish people