



Educator's Guide

Heroes of Oct. 7

Video: 22 mins

Discussion & activity: 30 minutes in breakout groups (suggested)

This video contains portions in Hebrew and has subtitles. When preparing to screen the video, **make sure that the subtitles are viewable from all seats.**

Link to video

How to use this video and educator guide

The video can be shown as a standalone video in a classroom or as part of a school-wide *tekes* or ceremony on Yom HaZikaron. Below, you will find an introduction you can read before showing the video.

Afterward, divide students up into groups, and choose reflection questions for them to answer. You can choose a specific lens through which to frame the discussion or select questions from each section for your students to discuss. Students can reflect in groups, or individually through writing prompts. Then, ask a few students to share their takeaways with the larger group.

Introduction and framing

Heroes of October 7th highlights the stories of **Yuval Salomon** and **Sahar Saudian**, two brave young Israelis killed on that day. Through hearing about them from their family and friends, we gain a glimpse of the people they were, their courage and bravery, and their connection to the land and people of Israel. We hope that through learning their stories, we will be inspired by their example and the spirit of the people of Israel, and gain an appreciation for the many worlds that were lost on that terrible Simchat Torah.

Discussion Questions

Sacrifice:



1. What are examples of times where you saw the theme of sacrifice in Yuval & Sahar's stories?
2. Do you think everyone is capable of making tremendous sacrifices or do you have to have certain characteristics?
3. What are some examples of sacrifices you have made in your own life, or what sacrifices have you seen someone else make that have inspired you?

Leadership:

1. What type of people were Yuval & Sahar? Where in their lives did they exhibit leadership?
2. There were many times in Sahar's story where she took initiative to do something she didn't have to do (ie: become an officer, stay on base so a friend wouldn't have to, report for duty even though she had been in a car accident, drive out to refill the missiles). What do you think led her to decide to do that?
3. What do you think led Yuval to decide to fight instead of staying in his safe room?
4. What are leadership lessons from their stories that you can apply to your own life?

Zionism:

1. After watching this video, how are you thinking differently about Oct. 7th? How are you thinking differently about Yom Hazikaron?
2. What do you think Zionism and Israel mean for Yuval & Sahar's families? Do you think their connection to Israel has been strengthened or challenged by their losses?
3. How might you describe your connection to Israel after viewing this video?
4. What message did the residents of Kfar Aza send when they returned to work the land within days of Oct. 7?

Reflection Questions

1. Share a moment or quote from the video that you found particularly powerful. Describe it and explain why.
2. If you could ask any of the family members in the video a question, what would you ask?



3. If you could ask Yuval or Sahar a question, what would you ask?
4. Did anything in the video surprise you? If so, what?
5. What insights, inspiration or new knowledge did you gain from this video?

Further Learning

1. Unpacked for Educators:
 - [Israeli Resilience](#) (video)
 - [When the Smoke Clears](#) (film)
 - [Beneath the Helmet: From High School to the Home Front](#) (film)
2. Learn more about Yuval, Sahar and more victims of Oct. 7 below:
 - [Cpt. Sahar Saudyan, 21: Iron Dome operator who was 'a real hero'](#)
 - [Yuval Salomon, 29: Soccer lover slain a day after his birthday](#)
 - [Those We Have Lost | The Times of Israel](#)