Jewish Women’s History

While the Museum is closed to the public, the JMM team has created family activity packets for you to enjoy in your own homes. Each collection of materials is inspired by our exhibits, Jewish History, and Jewish holidays.

All of the activities we share are designed for families to complete together and use supplies you probably have in your house.

Did you know that May is **Jewish American Heritage month**?

This month we’re using our weekly family activity packets to highlight different aspects of Jewish American history, inspired by our collections. This week’s activities focus on Jewish American women’s history, featuring stories of women from the 1800s and 1900s.

Don’t forget to share photos of you enjoying our crafts and activities on our [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#), or [Tumblr](#) pages and use #MuseumFromHome.
Matching Maryland Jewish Women

Henrietta Szold
1860-1945

Henrietta Szold dedicated her life to helping those in need. She founded a night school for immigrants in Baltimore and created Hadassah, an American Jewish volunteer women's organization.

Rosa Fineberg
Birth unknown-1926

Rosa Fineberg worked as a midwife, helping deliver over 2,000 babies in the immigrant communities of Baltimore.

Kate Coplan
1901-1993

Kate Coplan was a librarian, exhibit designer, and publicist. Through her work at the Enoch Pratt Library, she became recognized as an expert in crafting creative book displays.

Test your memory skills with this classic card matching game. Each pair of cards features a different notable Maryland Jewish Woman! All the women and images featured in this game are from the JMM collections.

Supplies needed:

- Download and print cards
- Scissors
Create Your Own Women’s History Card

**Elsie Mae Cohen**  
1909-1997

*Elsie Mae Cohen served as a nurse during World War II. According to her discharge papers, she earned 3 battle stars.*

**NAME**  
Birthday

**Sarah Kappelman Harris**  
1910-2012

*Sarah was known for her leadership roles in Jewish community organizations like Hadassah and the Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society.*

Think about the notable women in your life. Use this activity to make them their very own matching card! You can share the cards you create with women you chose, letting them know how much you appreciate them. You can also add your newly created cards to the matching game you made in the activity above.

**Supplies needed:**

- Paper
- Pencil or pen
- Craft supplies

The Jewish Museum of Maryland is an agency of The Associated
Suffrage Buttons


Did you know that 2020 marks the centennial anniversary (that's 100 years!) of the 19th Amendment? This amendment gave women the right to vote in America. But this amendment took a lot of work, especially by suffragists (people who fought for women to have the right to vote). There were many Jewish American women who counted themselves as suffragists – including Maryland Jewish women like Sadie Jacobs Crockin.

One way suffragists advertised their support for the movement was by creating and wearing buttons, often with the phrase “votes for women” on them. In this activity you can design and create your own suffrage button.

Supplies needed:

- Recycled cardboard
- Scissors
- Craft supplies
- Safety pin
- Tape

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Jewish Women Write Science Fiction:

This activity is inspired by the Museum’s upcoming exhibit, Jews in Space: Members of the Tribe in Orbit, which includes a section on the Jewish connection to science fiction. Many works of science fiction have been written by Jewish authors, and a Jewish inventor coined the term science fiction.

Click on their names to check out the work of a few Jewish female sci-fi authors including Baltimore-based Sarah Pinsker, Sally Ember, Pat Cadigan, and Pamela Sargent. Then, use your imagination to create your own sci-fi story!

Supplies needed:

- Piece of paper
- Pencil or pen
- Craft supplies
Keep Discovering

There is so much more to learn about Jewish American Women’s History! We’ve got a few resources highlighted below and we encourage you to do some looking on your own.

**Jewish American Women and The Suffrage Movement**

There were many Jewish American women involved in the suffrage movement, like Ernestine Rose (check out these two great JMM blog posts, *The First Feminist* and *America’s Jewish Women*) as well as Maud Nathan, Anita Pollitzer, and Gertrude Weil.

Explore the Jewish Women’s Archive for *even more stories* about Jewish American Women and Suffrage, along with a ton more Jewish American Women’s History!

For something a little more *contemporary* (that means happening now) follow along with *this reading of* I Dissent: Ruth Bader Ginsburg Makes Her Mark about the first Jewish woman on the U.S. Supreme Court.

*You can find more great kids books about RGB here.*

Did you know that a major landmark in the United States has strong ties to an American Jewish woman? The poem written on a plaque in the pedestal of the Statue of Liberty was written by Emma Lazarus. *Learn more about Emma here.* You can even learn about Henrietta Szold’s connection to Emma Lazarus here!