



JCC Association
of North America

Center for
Arts & Culture

Our friends at the Jewish Arts Collective in Boston have been exploring the concept of “play”, and how various Jewish holidays seem to invite us to creatively interpret tradition and make it our own. We are sharing the blog excerpt below, along with the actual blueprint for the “building block” that they have created. We invite you to have a look and imagine new ways to connect with one another next week, in person, and virtually.

Build More Play Into Your Passover Seder

By Sara Gardner for **Jewish Arts Collaborative**, excerpted from [Jewish Boston's blog](#)
March 23, 2020

The truth is, I think Passover is the ultimate Jewish holiday of play. While Purim may take the prize for the most raucous and Simchat Torah for the dance-y-est, Passover offers us a yearly opportunity to re-tell its story in as many creative, playful ways as possible. There's proof enough in the abundance of additions to the seder plate: an orange (a testament to LGBTQ+ solidarity), an artichoke (acknowledging interfaith marriages or fair-trade chocolate (a reminder of slavery's existence in our everyday lives)).

Tying together these themes of play, freedom and Passover, JArts created a Haggadah supplement that encourages you to play! We hope this “block” (the literal “building block” of play) will help you and your family to breathe more fun and creativity into your Passover season, whether it's at a seder or not.

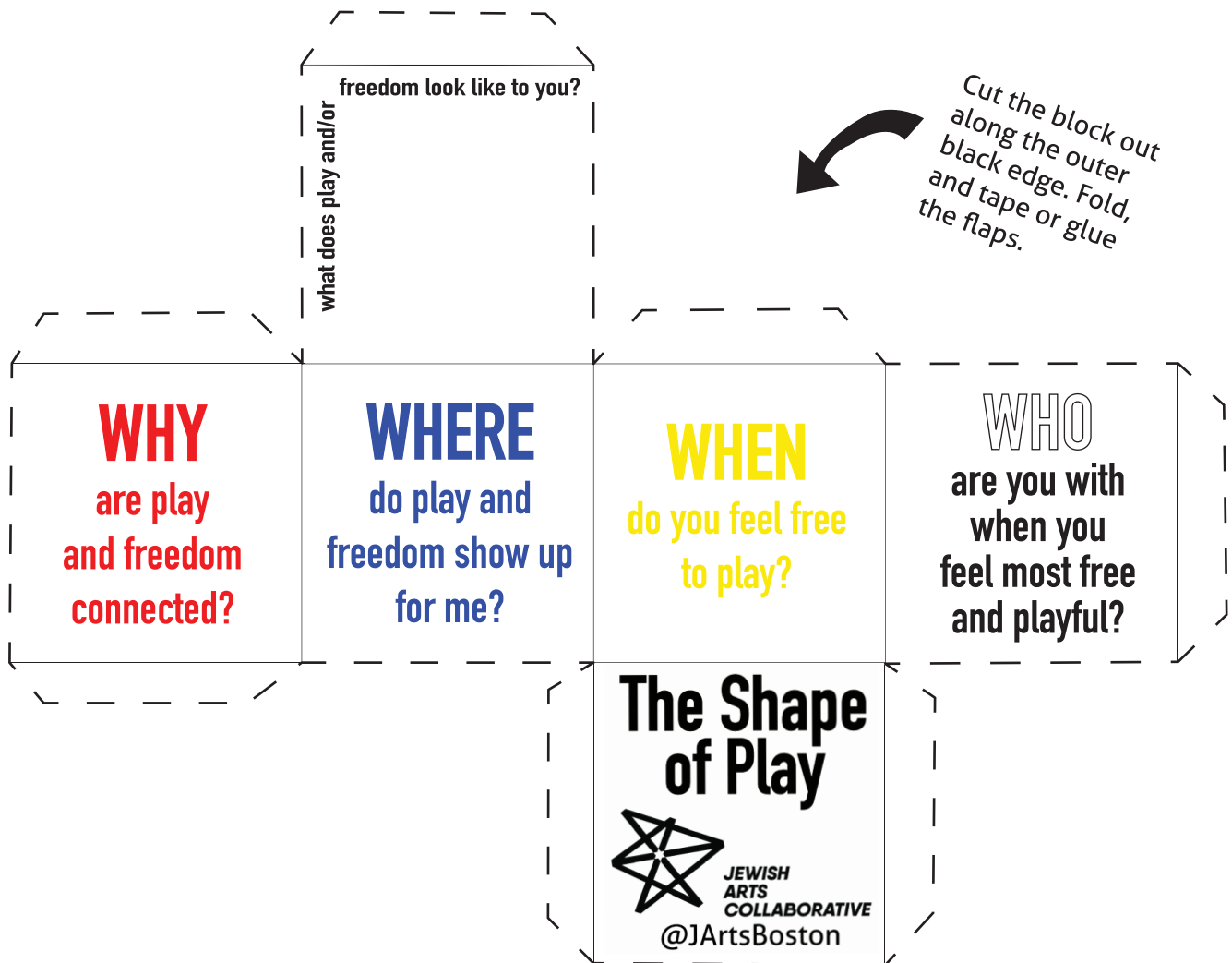
Cut out the block, fold it along the lines and tape it together. Give it a roll or toss across the table and you have a piece you can use to start conversations, both fun and serious, throughout the Passover season (or as an addition to your seder plate). So, while your seder may look different this year..., we hope this addition to your Haggadah will help you feel free to play.

PLAY at your Passover seder.

Cut. Fold. Place.

Put this block on your seder plate to represent freedom and play.
Then take turns rolling and answering the questions!

Just as some people put an orange on their seder plate to represent women's rights, we add this block to represent play and its inextricable connection to freedom.



Do you feel free to play? A commission by the Jewish Arts Collaborative and curated and produced by Now + There, *The Shape of Play* is a multimedia public art installation by artist Sari Carel coming to Downtown Boston that invites participants to challenge their concept of freedom and play. (date TBA)

In conjunction with the project, artist Tova Speter has created "block parties" to give us all an opportunity to connect around the project themes by decorating wooden blocks with answers to the questions above.

"Block Party" creator Tova Speter (tovaspeter.com) is an artist, art therapist, art educator and arts consultant based in Needham. Tova is the creator of The MEM Project, a venture offering art workshops as a way to explore Jewish identity and community connection.

Share your block!

#TheShapeofPlay #PassoverPlay
@JArtsBoston @JewishBoston

