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GIRLS CHUMASH CLASSES UTILIZE MATH TO ENHANCE THEIR LEARNING

As our seventh and eighth grade students have begun to learn Sefer Devarim, we have been focusing on the important messages that Moshe wants to share with his nation before they conquer Eretz Yisrael. As we analyzed the text we began by trying to figure out how long Moshe spoke to his nation. The Torah gave us the date in which Moshe started his speech but never told us explicitly when Moshe ended his final speech. As a class we put on our math hats and studied the text in order to figure it out. First we looked at pessukim from Sefer Yehoshua and saw that Bnai Yisrael went into Israel on the 10th of Nissan. Then we learned that before they went in, they prepared for 3 days which was the 7th of Nissan. Looking at the end of Sefer Devarim, we saw that after Moshe passed away, Bnai Yisrael mourned for 30 days. That brought us to the 7th of Adar. Once we were able to figure out when Moshe died, we saw our start date and our end date and realized that Moshe's speech was 37 days long. This exercise was a great way for our students to analyze other texts in Tanach as well as making our math teachers proud of our calculations.

