

## BEFORE VIEWING THE FILM

Because this film focuses on the personal aspects of kibbutz life, only a general impression is conveyed of the economic, political, and social organization of Kfar Menachem. Before viewing the film, you might research answers to the following questions. Keep in mind the results of your research as you watch the film.

1. When did the kibbutz movement begin? Who founded kibbutzim in the decades before, during, and just after World War II? Where were those people from? What were their occupational backgrounds?
2. What economic activities provide income for kibbutzim? What is the balance between agricultural and industrial economic activities?
3. What are the major characteristics of communal life in most kibbutzim? What arrangements are made for the housing of children and adolescents? For dining? For recreation?
4. What provisions are made in kibbutzim for the education of the community's children? Are there opportunities for kibbutz members to continue their educations beyond the grade levels taught on the kibbutz?

## FOR DISCUSSION AND CLASS PARTICIPATION

1. Discuss the complaints various kibbutz members have about life on the kibbutz. Which criticisms have you heard made about your own community? What different factors in your community and on the kibbutz might have led to these criticisms?
2. What avenues are open to kibbutz members who seek to change the kibbutz system? What obstacles stand in their way?
3. Referring to both what you saw and what you heard in the film, summarize the advantages of life on a kibbutz. Which advantages appear to result from its social system? Which might also be found in other settings?

4. Summarize the views held by those who favor a strictly agricultural economy for Kfar Menachem and those who favor expanding its economy to include industrial activities.

5. Study life-styles, social systems, and values in other close-knit communities around the world, such as those of eastern European gypsies, nomadic groups in North Africa, and Indian or Eskimo communities in Alaska. Compare these cultures with that of the Israeli kibbutzim.

6. Study radical communities that have been formed in countries other than Israel, including the utopian communities that flourished in the United States during the nineteenth century. What values have these communities shared in common with the Israeli kibbutzim? How successful were their founders in providing for the longevity of their communities?

## RELATED EBE MATERIALS

### 16mm Films

*ESKIMO FAMILY*

*A FAMILY OF LIBERIA*

*INDIAN FAMILY OF THE CALIFORNIA DESERT*

*ISRAELI BOY: LIFE ON A KIBBUTZ*

*THE SOVIET UNION: A STUDENT'S LIFE*

### Filmstrips

*FAMILIES AROUND THE WORLD* (series of 8)

*FAMILIES OF OTHER LANDS* (series of 5)

*ISRAEL: THE LAND AND THE PEOPLE*  
(series of 7)

**REPLACEMENT FOOTAGE.** To order replacement footage for damaged portions of film, refer to the numbers that appear on the perforated edge of the film. Example of footage order: *KIBBUTZ KFAR MENACHEM: CROSSROADS*. Send footage starting with number 0125 through number 0187, a total of 62 feet.

## EBE PREVIEW AND RENTAL LIBRARIES

- 1822 Pickwick Avenue, Glenview, Illinois 60025. Telephone (312) 729-6710.
- 2494 Teagarden Street, San Leandro, California 94577. Telephone (415) 483-8220.

To expedite your preview or rental requests, send orders to the library nearest you.

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