JUST FOR KIDS – JUNE 2025

FROM MAY:

(**This was accidentally left off of May calendar, but we can celebrate Jerusalem in any month!)

**JERUSALEM DAY (YOM YERUSHALAYIM) – MAY 26

Jerusalem Day (Hebrew: יום ירושלים, Yom Yerushalayim) is an Israeli national holiday commemorating the reunification of Jerusalem and the establishment of Israeli control over the Old City in June 1967. The Chief Rabbinate of Israel declared Jerusalem Day a minor religious holiday to thank G-d for victory in the Six-Day War and for answering the 2,000-year-old prayer of "Next Year in Jerusalem".

JERUSALEM DAY EXPLAINED **(ages 13 and up)** **text**
https://jewishunpacked.com/yom-yerushalayim-the-most-important-least-celebrated-jewish-holiday/

JERUSALEM COLORING PAGES ---
https://israelforever.org/programs/Jerusalem_Cornerstone/jerusalem-coloring-pages/

LEARN ABOUT JERUSALEM:

TAKE A ONE MINUTE VIDEO TOUR OF JERUSALEM **(ages 6 and up) video**
Join our favorite furry blue friend Grover as he introduces you to some of the sights and sounds of Jerusalem!
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=X-vKhLfb2PQ

GROVER VISITS JERUSALEM **(ages 6 and up) video**
Jerusalem is home to many different people. Listen to the different sounds, take in the sights with Grover and his friend Talia as they visit places like the shuk (marketplace), the Knesset (where they make the laws), and the Western Wall -- all in Jerusalem! As Grover says, "There is just so much to try!"
https://youtu.be/d3JeXLu63Gw

SHAVUOT – JUNE 1-3

Shavuot (Feast of Weeks) commemorates the giving of the Torah on Mt. Sinai to the Jewish people, and occurs on the 50th day after the 49 days of counting the Omer.

HOW TO CELEBRATE SHAVUOT **(ages 8 and up) text**
Everything you need to know about the holiday celebrating the giving of the Torah.
(Note: the dates refer to 2024)
https://jewishunpacked.com/how-to-celebrate-shavuot/

HOW THE JEWISH PEOPLE RECEIVED THE TORAH **(ages 6-10)** **animated**
History and Facts by Dina:
Dina uses her own original drawings to tell you this story.
https://www.chabad.org/kids/article_cdo/aid/902762/jewish/How-the-Jewish-People-Received-the-Torah.htm

CELEBRATE SHAVUOT WITH SHALOM SESAME **(ages 6-8)** **animated video**
In a very age appropriate way, Grover and his friends tell the story of Moses getting the ten commandments and its relevance today. ***(Page includes additional videos and several fun family activities recommended to further extend the lessons learned in the videos***
https://reformjudaism.org/jewish-holidays/shavuot/celebrate-shavuot-shalom-sesame

STORY OF SHAVUOT **(ages 8-10)** **animated video**
Watch this "comic book come alive" version of the story of Shavuot and how the Jews got the Torah.
https://www.chabad.org/kids/article_cdo/aid/382704/jewish/The-Story-of-Shavuot-Animated.htm

ELEVEN-SHAVUOT-FACTS-EVERY-JEW-SHOULD-KNOW **(ages 10-adult)** **text**
Learn all about Shavuout: history, traditions, ways to celebrate and more.
https://www.chabad.org/library/article_cdo/aid/4027637/jewish/Eleven-Shavuot-Facts-Every-Jew-Should-Know.htm

WHAT IS SHAVUOT **(ages 12-adult)** **video**
Shavuot is the most important Jewish Holiday most people have never heard of. From all night study sessions to decorating your house, to mountains of cheese, Shavuot finds incredible ways to celebrate receiving the Torah.
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XEcwkaljpmk

SHAVUOT RECIPES

MAKE A MOUNT SINAI CAKE **(ages 8 and up with parent help)** **text**
After G-d chose Mount Sinai to be the place He would give the Torah, the small, brown, dry mountain burst into bloom, growing flowers and lush greenery. You can make your own flowering Mount Sinai cake
https://www.chabad.org/kids/article_cdo/aid/3348669/jewish/Mount-Sinai-Cake.htm

LAYERED NO-BAKE CHEESECAKE CUPS **(ages 8 and up with parent help)** **text**
On Shavuot, it's traditional to eat dairy foods. Try these delicious, easy, no-bake cheesecake cups. You can use clear plastic cups instead of glass.. It's just as pretty.
https://www.chabad.org/kids/article_cdo/aid/2944323/jewish/Layered-No-Bake-Cheesecake-Cups.htm

FLAG DAY – JUNE 14

We all know the American flag, but how did it come about? Why does it use the colors red, white, and blue? What do the stars and stripes represent? Explore the origins of the flag and the history of why we celebrate it on Flag Day with this fun, short video.
https://ny.pbslearningmedia.org/resource/339cef7c-616c-461d-8752-f611b00d7c87/flag-day-all-about-the-holidays/?student=true&focus=true

FLAG DAY FOOD AND CRAFTS

MAKE YOUR OWN FLAG CAKE (ages 6-12) with adult help
Decorate a 9x11 cake to look like the American Flag. Try the baked cake mix version or the no-bake cheesecake version.
https://www.dltk-kids.com/usa/flag-cake.htm

MAKE AN AMERICAN FLAG TOILET PAPER ROLL WINDSOCK (ages 8-12)
With just a few simple materials you can make this patriotic windsock that blows in the wind.
https://mandapandaprojects.com/patriotic-american-flag-toilet-paper-roll-windsock/

FATHER'S DAY – JUNE 15

Father's Day is a special holiday where we honor the fathers in our lives. Each year we celebrate all of the dads, grandfathers and father figures that make us who we are. Watch this quick video to learn the history of the holiday and different ways people celebrate it.
http://ny.pbslearningmedia.org/resource/7caed470-fb02-4ef9-bf99-cd3b39caa073/fathers-day-all-about-the-holidays/?student=true&focus=true

SUMMER SOLSTICE - JUNE 21

This is the first day of summer in the Northern Hemisphere. It's the day with the most hours of daylight, so enjoy! In the Southern Hemisphere, winter begins at this time.
Here are some videos that tell you about the summer solstice:
https://youtu.be/Yp8QU9cCvzc **(ages 8-10)**
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6crz7eO_ahU **(ages 10 and up)**

SUMMER SOLSTICE CRAFTS

MAKE YOUR OWN SUNDIAL (ages 5-7)
For many thousands of years people would track the time with a sundial. You can make your own sundial at home from a paper plate and a pencil.
https://littlebinsforlittlehands.com/how-to-make-a-sundial/

MAKE YOUR OWN SUNDIAL (ages 8-12)
Here's a video that shows you all different ways to make a sundial – including making a human sundial! There's also directions and a template for making one from a paper plate.
VIDEO: https://youtu.be/SeSexM-wVzA
DIRECTIONS/TEMPLATE: https://pagingsupermom.com/make-a-sundial/

STORIES

ISRAEL

ELLA'S TRIP TO ISRAEL by Vivian Newman (ages 5-8) Read aloud
What can you learn about Israel as you travel there with Ella and her parents?
https://youtu.be/zjA7KfJ8WXI

SNOW IN JERUSALEM by Deborah da Costa (ages 8-10) Read aloud
Avi and Hamudi are two boys who live in Jerusalem's Old City—Avi in the Jewish Quarter and Hamudi in the Muslim Quarter. To each boy, the other's neighborhood is a strange place. What could bring these two boys together? Listen to this story and find out. ***You can borrow this book from our synagogue library.***
https://youtu.be/WAI8aHTu7r8

FLAG DAY

F IS FOR FLAG by Wendy Cheyette Lewison (ages 6-8) Read aloud
This story will tell you about how we see the flag in different places and that it can mean many things like unity, welcome, or serve as reminders for good and bad times. You will also learn about our flag has changed over the years.
https://youtu.be/ja37jgbacOs

I PLEDGE ALLEGIANCE by Pat Mora and Libby Martinez (ages 6-8) Read aloud
Join Libby and her great aunt Lobo in learning to say the Pledge of Allegiance. Lobo is going to become a citizen of the United States of **America** and needs practice saying the Pledge of Allegiance. You can practice along with this video.
https://youtu.be/4Qs6R24udGE

FATHER'S DAY

WHAT DADDIES DO BEST by Laura Numeroff (ages 3-5) Read aloud
Daddies can do lots of things well, like give a piggyback ride, build a snowman, give the dog a bath, and lots more. What can your daddy do well?
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=k82jMZmqPHk

PAPA, PLEASE GET THE MOON FOR ME by Eric Carle (ages 4-8) Animated
Monica wants the moon to play with, so her Papa sets out to get it for her. It isn't easy to climb all the way to the moon, but he finally succeeds--only to find that the moon is too big to carry home! How will he solve this problem?
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sGqAw7UM6qo

FATHER'S DAY by Anne Rockwell (ages 6-8) Read aloud
Kids in Mrs. Madoff's class are making special books for their dads. First the kids think about their special moments with their fathers. Sam's dad is so strong, he can carry Sam on his shoulders. Eveline's dad sings to her when Maman has to work at night. Jessica writes about her father in Texas ... and her stepfather at home. And when it's time to celebrate at school, Jessica gets the best surprise of all.
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eK7kM3I-91o

SUMMER SOLSTICE

THE LONGEST DAY: CELEBRATING THE SUMMER SOLSTICE
by Wendy Pfeffer (ages 8-13) Read aloud
Learn about the history and science behind the summer solstice, and also about summer celebrations from various cultures around the world.
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YygbpFb5W7A

JEWISH FOLKLORE STORIES

VILLAGE OF IDIOTS (ages 8-13) Animated
There are many stories about "the wise men of Chelm, but many people think they are not wise at all, but instead foolish. After watching this story, what do you think?
https://youtu.be/TLGnekh2y6k

SAGES OF CHELM AND THE MOON by Shlomo Abas (ages 8-13)
The moon has disappeared! Has it been stolen as the people of Chelm think? Or is it hiding? Will buying a new moon solve the problem?

Listen to professional storyteller, Alastair Daniel, tell the story of the sages of Chelm and the moon:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7p0L-dM7-yk
or
Listen and follow along with as Allie from PJ Library as she reads the *book:*
https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=1126981837822136

MUSIC AND MOVEMENT

Get your body in shape for all the summer activities ahead Jack Hartmann

I CAN MOVE MY BODY LIKE ANYTHING -- MOVEMENT SONG (ages 5-7) video with Jack Hartmann
Move your body with fun dances, shake like a salt shaker, roll like a roller coaster, pop like popcorn, wave like the ocean, flip like a pancake, bounce like a basketball, twirl and more!
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oLaJ4jyKBUY

LEARN HATIKVAH, THE ISRAELI NATIONAL ANTHEM (ages 10 and up) video
Hatikvah means "The Hope." Listen to a summary of how the song developed and learn what the lyrics mean. Then practice singing along.
(NOTE: This year Yom Ha'atzmaut was on May 1))
https://youtu.be/rRkRBXuDYUQ

Check this out:

CHILDREN'S BOOKS THAT CORRELATE WITH THIS MONTH'S TOPICS AVAILABLE TO BORROW FROM OUR SYNAGOGUE LIBRARY

SUKKOT, SIMCHAS TORAH and SHEMINI ATZERET

1. Engineer Ari and the Sukkah Express, Deborah Bodin Cohen **(FICTION)**
2. Sukkot & Simhat Torah, Joel Luri Grishaver **(NONFICTION)**
3. Sukkot and Simhat Torah, Miriam Schlein **(NONFICTION)**
4. Maya Prays For Rain, Susan Tarcov **(FICTION)**

ISRAEL

1. A Young Person's History of Israel, David Bamberger ***)*** **(NONFICTION)**
2. Journey to Jerusalem, Sara Bertisch ***(2 copies)*** **(NONFICTION)**
3. Snow In Jerusalem, Deborah de Costa **(FICTION)**
4. Chicken Man, Michelle Edwards **(FICTION)**
5. Good Night Israel, Mark Jasper and Anne Rosen ***(board book)*** **(NONFICTION)**
6. Dinosaur Goes to Israel, Diane Levin Rauchwerger **(FICTION)**
7. Shmulik Paints the Town, Lisa Rose **(FICTION)**
8. The Fifth Wheel (Kibbutz life), Moshe Shamir***)*** **(NONFICTION)**
9. A Concert In The Sand, Tami Shem-Tov and Rachella Sandbank **(FICTION)**