

JUST FOR KIDS – OCTOBER 2025

OCTOBER HOLIDAYS AND EVENTS

YOM KIPPUR – SUNSET OCTOBER 1th to SUNSET OCTOBER 2nd

Learn about Yom Kippur at some of the sites below.

WHAT IS YOM KIPPUR? (ages 12 and up) **Animated Video**

Learn the basics of the Day of Atonement in 3 minutes. Yom Kippur is the most holy day of the Jewish year and it is full of spiritual opportunity if you open yourself up to its customs, prayers and melodies. This short video is a basic lesson on what Yom Kippur is, for everyone. It explains what the holiday is about, where it comes from, and how you observe it.

<https://youtu.be/4oqBzq8wCUg>

A CHILDREN'S GUIDE TO YOM KIPPUR (ages 7 and up) **Text**

Here's a handy guide for how to celebrate Yom Kippur. It includes the candle lighting and prayers we say, the shoes we wear, the role of the shofar, and more to help you celebrate this special holiday.

https://www.chabad.org/kids/article_cdo/aid/4589/jewish/Guide.htm

TAP INTO YOM KIPPUR!: "REBBETZIN TAP & FRIENDS" (ages 6 and up) **Video**

What's Yom Kippur all about? Why do we not eat and drink? Learn about Yom Kippur with Rebbetzin Tap!

https://www.chabad.org/kids/article_cdo/aid/2450340/jewish/Tap-into-Yom-Kippur.htm

YOM KIPPUR ACTIVITIES

MAKE A DUCT TAPE MACHZOR COVER (ages 10 and up) **Video**

Make a beautiful cover out of duct tape for your machzor (High Holidays prayer book).

https://www.chabad.org/kids/article_cdo/aid/3050207/jewish/Make-a-Duct-Tape-Machzor-Cover.htm

YOM KIPPUR COLORING PAGES (ages 5-7)

Color in: The Blowing of the Shofar, The Scale, and The Machzor

https://www.chabad.org/kids/article_cdo/aid/361493/jewish/Coloring-Pages.htm

THE STORY OF JONAH (ages 8 and up) **Read aloud**

The Book of Jonah is traditionally read on the afternoon of Yom Kippur. It teaches us a lesson about the process of atonement and changing our behavior for the better. Enjoy this special read aloud of the story.

https://youtu.be/4_gqTuRYNVE?si=zXFAztNELgRKG2u

SUKKOT – SUNSET OCTOBER 6th to SUNSET OCTOBER 13th

Learn about Sukkot at some of the sites below.

ALL ABOUT SUKKOT WITH DINA (ages 5-8) **Video**

You will learn facts and history about Sukkot in this quick video

https://www.chabad.org/kids/article_cdo/aid/989953/jewish/All-About-Sukkot.htm

TAP INTO SUKKOT!: "REBBETZIN TAP & FRIENDS" (ages 6 and up) **Video**

What's Sukkot all about? Why do we build a Sukkah and shake the Lulav? Learn about Sukkot with Rebbetzin Tap!

https://www.chabad.org/kids/article_cdo/aid/2385615/jewish/Tap-into-Sukkot.htm

SUKKOT ACTIVITIES

MAKE AN ETROG BOX OUT OF LEGOS (ages 7 and up)

Follow the easy directions and pictures and make an etrog box with a Star of David on top, all out of Legos.

https://www.chabad.org/kids/article_cdo/aid/3080941/jewish/Make-an-Etrog-Box-out-of-Lego.htm

MAKE A MODEL SUKKA (ages 7 and up)

Have you ever made a model sukkah? There are lots of ways to make one. You can use Lego or cardboard boxes, for example. Here you'll see how to make one using paper towel rolls.

https://www.chabad.org/kids/article_cdo/aid/3080917/jewish/Make-a-Model-Sukkah.htm

WHAT IF WE BUILT THE WORLD'S GREATEST SUKKA? (ages 6 and up) **Video**

What do you think the world's greatest sukkah would be like? See what ideas Ezy, Eli, Dina and Rina, come up with. Then take a look at the interesting questions to think about or discuss with your friends or family (There are no right or wrong answers)

https://www.chabad.org/kids/article_cdo/aid/989576/jewish/What-If-We-Built-the-Worlds-Greatest-Sukkah.htm

DO AN EXPERIMENT (ages 8 and up **with an adult's help**)

One of the interesting laws is that a sukkah has to be less than 20 cubits tall – that's about 30 feet. To get an idea of exactly how tall 30 feet is and how temporary or permanent it feels, **TRY THIS EXPERIMENT WITH AN ADULT**. *Then share your thoughts about the questions at the end.*

https://www.chabad.org/kids/article_cdo/aid/989950/jewish/Experiment-Measuring-20-Cubits-High.htm

SUKKOT MUSIC

SHAKIN' THE LULAV (ages 6-10) **Video**

Watch this fun upbeat video, based on the song "Twist & Shout," to learn about the lulav and esrog and how to use them in the sukkah.

(click on "more" to see the lyrics and sing along!)

<https://youtu.be/gODQ0pgR64Y>

SIMCHAS TORAH: SUNSET OCTOBER 13th to SUNSET OCTOBER 15th

LEARN ABOUT SIMCHAS TORAH (ages 8 and up) **Text**

Following the seven joyous days of Sukkot, comes the happy holiday known as Shemini Atzeret/Simchat Torah. Learn about how we celebrate this holiday.

https://www.chabad.org/kids/article_cdo/aid/4802/jewish/Simchat-Torah.htm

THE TORAH SCROLL (ages 8 and up) **Text**

Simchat Torah means rejoicing with our Torah. What do you know about the Torah scroll? Learn about how it is made, its decorations, and how it is treated with respect.

https://www.chabad.org/kids/article_cdo/aid/4804/jewish/The-Torah-Scroll.htm

WRITING A TORAH SCROLL (ages 8 to adult) **Video**

"A Community Writes Their Own Torah Scroll: Creating A Home for the First Sefer Torah in the State of Florida"

This is a fascinating movie about a community in Florida that wrote their own Torah Scroll. It is the first sefer Torah ever written, in its entirety, in the state of Florida. The Torah contains 304,805 letters – all written by hand.

https://www.chabad.org/kids/article_cdo/aid/2712207/jewish/Writing-a-Torah-Scroll.htm

SHGAGA: THE TORAH'S RESPONSE TO MAKING MISTAKES (ages 11 to adult) **Animated**

Shgaga is the Torah concept for when someone does something accidentally, or by mistake. Doing something accidentally is different from doing something on purpose.

Watch this animated video to learn three different Torah stories about shgaga. *There are different opinions about these laws. After watching the video discuss your opinion with someone*

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0srVVYU4PoQ>

SIMCHAT TORAH ACTIVITIES

MINI TORAH SCROLLS CRAFT FOR SIMCHAT TORAH! (ages 9 and up)

Make mini torah scrolls that you can use to make napkin rings, cupcake or cake decorations or anything else you can think of!

<https://www.creativejewishmom.com/2015/10/mini-torah-scrolls-craft-for-simchat-torah.html>

WHAT'S IN THE TORAH MINI BOOK (ages 6 with help and up)

The word Torah means “teaching,” and in Judaism, it is our most precious book. It contains stories of our ancestors, which help us understand our own lives today. It is filled with Jewish law, mitzvot, blessings, and so much more. The words you paste inside your Torah mini book will help you learn how special it is.

<https://www.makeitjewish.com/blog/whats-in-the-torah-mini-book>

SHABBAT

SHABBAT BLESSINGS (ages 8 and up) **Animated video**

Come learn the Shabbat dinner blessings with Isaac Zones! Isaac comes to dinner at Moishe House and gets a surprising challenge - can he lead the Shabbat dinner guests in four ritual blessings?! With a little help from this karaoke style video, you can too!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zKcYRCbsGfQ>

STORIES

YOM KIPPUR STORY

SAMMY SPIDER'S FIRST YOM KIPPUR by Sylvia A. Rouss (ages 6-8) **Read Aloud**

When Josh breaks the rules and plays ball indoors, he finds himself apologizing not only to his parents, but to Sammy Spider as well. Enjoy this Yom Kippur story about saying, “I’m sorry.”

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lctEHNycXo4>

SIMCHAT TORAH STORY

SAMMY SPIDER'S FIRST SIMCHAT TORAH by Sylvia A. Rouss (ages 6-8) **Read Aloud**

Sammy is curious about the candy apple attached to Josh’s Simchat Torah flag. When he goes to get a closer look, he soon finds himself stuck to the apple and on his way to Josh’s synagogue, where he learns important lessons about Simchat Torah.

<https://youtu.be/bh0SzgHPvUE>

JEWISH FOLKLORE STORIES:

THE GOLEM OF RABBI ELIJAH-THE LEGEND OF THE GOLEM OF CHELM (ages 10 and up) **Animated**

Jewish folklore has many stories about the golem. In this one, a rabbi creates a character (the golem) out of clay, to be helpful to the people of his village, there are some unexpected results. Rabbi uses clever thinking to take care of the problem. Does this story remind you a little of the story of Frankenstein with a touch of Amelia Bedelia?

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=N8gClvFg11I>

VILLAGE OF IDIOTS (ages 8 and up) **animated**

Do you sometimes think that what you don't have is better than what you have? In this story Shmendrik is getting tired of living in his small village of Chelm. He sets out on a journey to a new place which brings him to a new village of Chelm, which is weirdly like his old Chelm.

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/cTVdbrniiNA>

Check this out:

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

ROSH HASHONA and YOM KIPPUR

1. The World's Birthday - A Rosh Hashona Story, Barbara Diamond Goldin (**FICTION**)
2. Sam and Charlie (And Sam Too!), Leslie Kimmelman
3. Talia and the Very Yum Kippur, Linda Elovitz Marshall (**FICTION**)
4. Tikkun Olam Ted And the Importance of Small Steps, Vivian Newman
5. Sammy Spider's First Rosh Hashanah, Sylvia Rouss (**FICTION**)
6. Rosh Hashona and the Ten Days of Teshuva – coloring book, Shepsil Scheinberg (**NONFICTION**)
7. Rosh Hashona and Yom Kippur, Miriam Schlein (**NONFICTION**)
8. Yom Kippur Mahzor, Torah Aura Productions (**4 copies**) (**NONFICTION**)
9. Sound the Shofar (the Story and Meaning of Rosh Hashana and Yom Kippur, Erika Weihs (**young adult**) (**NONFICTION**))
10. Happy New Year, Beni, Jane Breskin Zalben (**FICTION**)

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**)
5. A Child's Introduction to Torah, Shirley Newman (**NONFICTION**)

SHABBAT

1. Havdalah Sky, A Poem for the End of Shabbat, Chris Barash (*board book*)
2. Fridays Are Special, Chris Barash (**FICTION**)
3. The Cricket and the Ant, Naomi Ben-Gur (**FICTION**)
4. In the Market of Zakrobat, Ori Elon (**FICTION**)
5. No Baths At Camp, Tamar Fox (**FICTION**)
6. Shai's Shabbat Walk, Elilie Gellman (*board book*)
7. This is the Challah, Sue Hepker (**FICTION**)
8. The Friday Nights of Nana, Amy Hest (**FICTION**)
9. Joseph and the Sabbath Fish, Eric Kimmel (**FICTION**)
- 10.** Clarence's Topsy-Turvey Shabbat, Jennifer Tzivia MacLeod (**FICTION**)
11. Many Days, One Shabbat, Fran Manushkin (**FICTION**)
12. Shabbat Shalom, (20 festive songs) Cindy Paley (**NONFICTION**)
13. The Schmutzy Family, Madelyn Rosenberg (**FICTION**)
14. The Kiddish Cup Who Hated Wine, Byrd Salop (**FICTION**)
15. Mrs. Moskowitz and the Sabbath Candlesticks, Amy Schwartz (**FICTION**)
16. The Sabbath Lion, A Jewish Folktale from Algeria, Retold by Howard Schwartz and Barbara Rush (**FICTION**)
17. Yitzi The Trusty Tractor, Naomi Shulman (**FICTION**)
18. Let's Celebrate Shabbat, Adam Siegel editor (**NONFICTION**)
19. The Shabbat Box, Leslie Simpson (**FICTION**)