



Welcome to Spark, the Tribe Parasha activity sheet that will help you bring Judaism to life in a varied and exciting way. I'd like these activities to enthuse the children and show them how the Torah given almost 3500 years ago is still as relevant and as exciting in our lives today.

Thank you for offering to run a Children's Service, for all the hard work you put into it and for making a real difference to so many young people. The US is very proud of the numerous Children's Services that are run every week across the UK and this would not happen without you.

Spark gives you an overview of the weekly Parasha, songs, an activity, discussion questions or D'var Torah linked to the Parasha or important event that week. Every Children's Service will be different, in terms of how many participants there are, their age range, its length and the varying abilities of the children. Please read through the document and find the activities that will best suit the needs of your group. It is advisable to read it before Shabbat in case there is some preparation that may be needed in advance.

I am sure the children at your shul will benefit from Spark. Please be in touch if you have any queries, feedback or if we can be of any help. Thank you again for the work you do in enabling so many young Jews to access their heritage and traditions in such an exciting way.

All it takes is a small spark of interest, to ignite a flame of passion for Judaism.

With kindest regards,

Rabbi Nicky (Goldmeier)
Spark Editor and Education Consultant

Ki Teitzei – 2019/5779

Parasha Summary:



In this week's Parasha (Torah portion) there are seventy four of the 613 Mitzvot (Commandments) of the Torah. This week's Parasha (Torah portion) begins with strict laws which applied to the members of B'nei Yisrael (The Children of Israel) who went in to battle.

The Parasha (Torah portion) continues by telling us laws about first born sons and sons who are rebellious. It then continues with laws concerning the way we should treat other people's property and ensuring that lost items are returned to their rightful owner.

If someone sees the donkey or ox belonging to his/her friend falling under the weight they are carrying, s/he must go over and help the animal.

The Parasha (Torah portion) continues by telling us that we must send away the mother bird before taking her eggs or young.

If someone were to have a flat roof on their house, they are commanded to put railing all around the roof.

The Mitzvah (Commandment) of tying Tzitzit (Fringes) on 4 cornered garments worn by men, is reiterated in this Parasha (Torah portion) and we are also reminded of the law, not to charge another Jew interest on a loan. A warning is also given to merchants and businessmen and women to be extremely scrupulous in their trading. They must not have faulty scales or weights and must not cheat their customers.

The B'nei Yisrael (Children of Israel) are also reminded of their charitable responsibilities. Finally, the Parasha (Torah portion) ends with a reminder to never forget what Amalek did to the B'nei Yisrael (Children of Israel) shortly after leaving Egypt.

- The Parasha (Torah portion) begins with specific laws which applied to men who went in to battle and were victorious over their enemy. There were rules as to what could and could not be taken from the defeated nation.
- Inheritance was given to all children, but a firstborn son was to receive a double portion of their parents' inheritance.
- The strict laws of a rebellious son are detailed in this week's Parasha (Torah portion), including the consequences of a son who does not heed his parents and acts in a contrary manner to what he is told.
- The law of returning lost property is explained, placing the responsibility on everyone to return an object to its rightful owner. There is a whole tractate of Talmud about the responsibility of returning lost items, listing various circumstances and situations which could result in an item being found and returned.
- Continuing with the theme of respecting other people's property, is the law to take care of another person's animal if it is suffering under the burden it is carrying.
- The Torah tells us that before we take the eggs from a nest, it is important not to take them from in front of the mother bird, but to send her away first and only then take the eggs.
- If someone builds a house or buys a house with a flat roof, they are to ensure that a fence or railing is put up around the edge of the roof. This will obviously prevent someone from accidentally falling.
- The B'nei Yisrael (Children of Israel) are reminded to put Tzitzit (Fringes) on any 4 cornered garments worn by a man. Nowadays, when we do not generally wear 4 cornered garments, men are able to purchase a 4 cornered garment, with Tzitzit (Fringes) on it.
- The adherence of good business ethics are reiterated in this week's Parasha (Torah portion), with the laws of being extremely careful about how things are sold. One must not deceive or cheat a customer.
- The B'nei Yisrael (Children of Israel) are told to never forget what the wicked nation of Amalek did to them shortly after leaving Egypt. No nation dared to battle against them, after all the wonders and miracles which Egypt and the surrounding nations had witnessed. Yet, the nation of Amalek had the audacity to attack them and although they were unsuccessful, it set a precedence for all time.

Children's Service: Tot's – Year 3

The Mitzvah of 'Hashavat Aveidah', returning lost property is something all children can understand. This game gives children the opportunity to share their feelings about losing and then finding something which belongs to them.



You will need five buttons for this game and it will help children understand that objects, if lost, can be found.

Begin by showing all the children the five buttons so they can recognise them. Choose two children to be the "hiders" and tell the other children they will be the "finders." Ask the finders to stand against one wall together and close their eyes while facing the wall. Give the hiders the five large buttons. Tell them to hide the buttons in the room and then sit down and say "Go." When the hiders say "Go," direct all the finders to look for the buttons. The finder who finds the last button gets to be the hider next.

Play several times. Then, collect the buttons and gather the children together. Ask the children if any of them have ever lost something. Allow for children to share their examples. Ask them how they felt when they lost the item and how they felt when/if it was found.

The Little Red Rabbi



This story is all about the time the Little Red Rabbi decided that it was time to extend his house. The Little Red Rabbi and his family always invited guests to the house.

Sometimes the guests would come for a meal and sometimes they would stay overnight. But there was not always a room for them to sleep in and the Little Red Rabbi's children had to squeeze into each other's rooms. The Little Red Rabbi turned to his wife and said, 'I really think we should extend the house so that we can always invite people to stay and give them somewhere comfortable to sleep.' The Little Red Rabbi's wife thought that this was a wonderful idea and they made all the preparations to have their new extension.

Some months later, when the extension was finished, the Little Red Rabbi and his wife thanked the builders and decorators and were extremely proud of their extension.

They stood in the new bedroom and thought how wonderful it would be for guests.

Then, the Little Red Rabbi went out to the garden to look at the outside of the extension. Once again, it looked fantastic, except for one thing. The roof was flat and the Little Red Rabbi knew that he would have to put some railings around it to stop people falling off.

He thought for a minute and then said. I know, I'll call my good friends Michael, Michaela and Morris to help me put up a railing.

First, he spoke to Michael. 'Hi Michael, is there any chance you could help me put up some railings on the flat roof of my new extension?' Oh, I'm afraid I have to fly to another country to meet a friend.' Said Michael. 'That's no problem', said the Little red Rabbi, 'I'll do it myself.' Then The Little Red Rabbi spoke to Michaela. 'Hi Michaela, is there any chance you could help me put up some railings on the flat roof of my new extension?' 'Oh, I'm afraid I have to take my children to a football match.' Said Michaela. 'That's no problem', said the Little red Rabbi, 'I'll do it myself.'

Finally, the Little Red Rabbi spoke to Morris. 'Hi Morris, is there any chance you could help me put up some railings on the flat roof of my new extension?' Oh, I'm afraid I have to go and pick my brother up from Kings Cross train station.' said Morris. 'That's no problem', said the Little red Rabbi, 'I'll do it myself.'

The Little Red Rabbi went to Homebase and bought all the material he needed. He bought cement, metal poles, screws, nails, glue, a hammer, a spanner, a screwdriver and a builder's hat. When he got home, he unloaded the car and very carefully took all the materials he had bought from Homebase up to the roof and set about working. But before he did anything, he tied one end of a piece of rope around his waist, very securely and the other end to a strong metal poll on the corner of the roof. Now he felt safe and could start working on putting up the railings.

The Little Red Rabbi worked very hard, sometimes in the heat and sometimes in the rain and after 3 days the railings were finished!

The Little Red Rabbi now felt super safe on the flat roof and untied his rope.

The Little Red Rabbi felt so proud of the work he had done that he invited his good friends Michael, Michaela and Morris to come over and up on top of the roof.

‘Do you feel safe up here?’ asked the Little Red Rabbi. ‘We most certainly do and it’s all thanks to you Little Red Rabbi.

The Little Red Rabbi smiled and said, ‘we certainly do not want anyone on this roof, but if they have to go on it to mend a pipe or fix a leak then they will feel extra safe.

Children’s Service: Years 3- 6



Activity – One of the many Mitzvot (Commandments) in this week’s Parasha (Torah portion) is that of ‘Hashavat Aveidah’, returning lost property to its rightful owner.

Start the activity by splitting the children into groups of 3. Explain to the children that they need to give each member of the group a different role. Depending on the role they choose, they are given the relevant number. Each group will prepare a short role-play.

1. Choose one group member (**Number 1**) to play someone who has misplaced or lost something they like very much. Another group member (**Number 2**) should play someone who has found the lost item and the third group member (**Number 3**) should ask the questions.
2. Child **Number 1** should decide what they have lost and why it is so important to them. Child **Number 2** should say that s/he has found it and then answer the following questions asked by Child **Number 3**. These questions should be prepared beforehand and given to the children who are **Number 3** for this activity.
 - a. Where did you find it?
 - b. Do you know who it belongs to?
 - c. Do you think you should keep it?
 - d. How will you find the person to whom it belongs?
 - e. Has it got any signs on it that are unusual?
 - f. Where will you take it?
 - g. How will you know that it actually belongs to that person?
3. After each group has had a turn performing their role play to others, tell the children that the Torah tells us to return lost property, especially items that have an unusual mark or sign on them. If it is found inside a school, it could be announced at assembly. If it is found in a park, it could be taken to the main park keeper's office and if it is found on a train or bus it could be taken to the nearest bus or train station office.

Discussion Points

Imagine you are a shopkeeper and you own a shop that sells paints for decorating a house. A customer comes into your shop and says to you that they have heard from a friend, about a certain make of paint that is really easy to use and doesn't have a strong smell which some paints do. The customer says that the name of



the paint is 'SunSeal' and it's amazing!



Now, as the shopkeeper, you know that the customer has got the name confused with another paint called 'Sunset'! which is much cheaper than 'SunSeal'!

1. Do you think you have a duty to tell the customer that they are wrong about SunSeal paint?
2. Do you think it would be best to keep quiet. After all, they did ask for SunSeal which is more expensive and you haven't sold many paints this week?
3. Do you think you would be doing the wrong thing by selling the wrong paint, which the customer did ask for?
4. What does this scenario teach us about being honest in business?
5. Have you got any of your own examples of a time you may have been dealt with unfairly when you went to buy something?

Tefillah Treasures



The Tefillah (Prayer) of ‘L’David, Hashem Ori...’ – ‘A psalm of David, God is my light...’

We add this special prayer to the end of the morning and evening services from the start of the Jewish month of Elul until the end of the festival of Succot.

An early Midrash (commentary on the Torah) relates its contents to the festivals of Rosh Hashana, Yom Kippur and Succot.

The following line comes from this psalm;

**אַחַת שְׁאַלְתִּי מֵאֵת ה', אוֹתָהּ אֶבְקֶשׁ, שְׁבִתִּי בְּבֵית ה'
כָּל יְמֵי חַיִּי, לַחֲזוֹת בְּנֹעַם ה' וּלְבַקֵּר בְּהִיכָלוֹ**

It means ‘One thing I ask of God, only this do I seek: to live in the house of God all the days of my life, to gaze on the beauty of God and to pray in His Holy Temple.’

In the build up to Rosh Hashana, Yom Kippur and Succot, we express our renewed love for God as we look back at the previous year and hope and pray for a year in which we will see the beauty of God's creations.

Songs

The links have been included for you to watch before Shabbat and if you so wish, to teach the children these songs.



Achat Sha'alti

Achat Sha'alti Me'et Hashem otah avakesh.
Shivti B'veit Hashem kol yemei Chayai
Lachazot B'noam Hashem, ul'vaker b'heichalo

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

Zum Gali Gali

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dEwuXohHZ84>

Hechalutz le maan avoda,
Avoda le maan hechalutz.
Zum gali gali gali,
Zum gali gali.
Zum gali gali gali,
Zum gali gali.
Ha shalom le maan ha amin,
Ha amin le maan ha shalom.
Zum gali gali gali,
Zum gali gali.
Zum gali gali gali,
Zum gali gali.

English Lyrics for 'Zum Gali Gali'

Pioneers all work as one,
Work as one all pioneers.
Zum gali gali gali,
Zum gali gali.
Zum gali gali gali,
Zum gali gali.
Peace shall be for all the world,
All the world shall be for peace.
Zum gali gali gali,
Zum gali gali.
Zum gali gali gali,
Zum gali gali