



Welcome to Spark, the Tribe Parsha 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 raging flame of passion for Judaism.

With kindest regards,

Rabbi Nicky (Goldmeier)  
Spark Editor and Education Consultant

## Vayeilech

5780



### Parasha Summary:

This week's Parasha (Torah portion) is the shortest in the entire Chumash (5 Books of Moses), with only 30 verses and it begins with Moshe (Moses), now 120 years of age, telling the B'nei Yisrael (Children of Israel) that his leadership is drawing to a close.

He told the people that Yehoshua (Joshua) would be the leader who would successfully lead them into the Promised Land.

Moshe (Moses) then wrote down the law and delivered it to the Kohanim (Priests) and the Elders of the B'nei Yisrael (Children of Israel). The Levi'im (Levites) were to place these Laws written down by Moshe (Moses) by the side of the Aron Hakodesh (The Holy Ark)

Moshe (Moses) once again, reminded the people of the consequences of not obeying God's laws.

- At the beginning of the Parasha (Torah portion), Moshe (Moses) announced that his leadership was coming to an end and revealed to the people that Yehoshua (Joshua) would be taking over.
- In front of all the people, Moshe (Moses) encouraged Yehoshua (Joshua) to be strong and courageous and to place his full trust in God.
- Moshe (Moses) then committed the Law to writing and delivered it to the Kohanim (priests) and Leviim (Levites). When there would eventually be a king in Israel, he would be charged with reading it publicly on the festival of Succot (Tabernacles), during the year after the Shemitta (Sabbatical year for the land every 7 years) to the people assembled in the Beit Mikdash (The Holy Temple).
- By reading from the Book of Devarim (Deuteronomy) every 7 years, every man, woman and child would be reminded of their obligation to obey God's laws.

- The Leviim (Levites) were to place this book of laws beside the Aron Hakodesh (The Holy Ark), to bear witness against the B'nei Yisrael (Children of Israel) if they were to ever deviate from its teachings.
- Moshe (Moses) was then told to assemble the people to remind them of the good and bad consequences, depending on their behaviour when they had settled in the Land of Israel.

### Children's Service: Tot's – Year 3

This week's Parasha (Torah portion) begins by telling us that all the Jewish people; men, women, children, important people, officers and workers are all standing together in front of God, ready to listen to His laws. The description of people standing together, promotes inclusivity and should remind us that whoever we are, we should all be included in the service of God. These games are aimed to promote inclusivity and appreciation of everyone.



#### **Activity –**

Arrange the children into groups of three and stand in a circle. Tell them that their assignment for the next two minutes is to find three things that the three of them have in common. Examples: All born in the same city/country, all have two siblings, all have a pet dog/cat/goldfish. As each group finish, they should sit down and once everyone is sitting down, the groups should each introduce themselves and tell the other groups what they have in common.

## A Poem about what it really means to be BIG!

David was a happy boy,  
But one thing made him sad.  
He wanted to be **BIG** so much,  
He started to get mad.

### "I WANT TO BE BIG RIGHT NOW!"

He yelled in a loud voice.  
David thought he might get **BIG**,  
If he made **LOTS OF NOISE!**

But that didn't seem to work.  
His Mum called, "I need quiet!"  
Then David got a new idea,  
And off he went to try it.

"I'll get something to stand on,"  
David did not shout.  
"Something **BIG**," said David,  
"Bet **that** could help me out!"

The very first thing that David found,  
Was the box that held his toys.  
Well, it was **supposed** to - but  
David was like **most** boys!

His cars did not want to go in.  
His trucks just wouldn't fit.  
He **liked** his lego on the floor,  
Lying near his doctor's kit.

The toy box - it was empty.

The perfect place to climb.

He jumped on it - jumped up and down,

He was having a good time!

"Hey! Look at me! I'm **BIG!** I'm **BIG!**"

That was the last he said,

Before he tumbled off the box,

And bumped his red-mopped head.

But David wouldn't give up yet.

Not the David **we** now know!

He shouted down the stairs,

And called to those below:

"Hello down there! I must be **BIG!**

Because you two look small.

Hello there, Mum! Hi there, Tali!

**This** time I will not fall!"

And then he started **shooting**,

With his gun (really a **broom**),

His Mother said, "Enough of that.

Now go and **sweep** your room!"

Then David felt like **he'd** been told off!

**That** didn't sound like fun.

He didn't want to **sweep** his room.

"But...Mum....I got to run!"

See, David wasn't finished yet.

That boy is hard to stop.

He suddenly had a brand new plan -  
Out of his head it popped.

"A tree!" He **loved** to climb trees.  
And so he zoooooomed outside.  
He'd climb waaaaaaaay up - and feel so **BIG**,  
And also - he could hide.  
  
"Wow! This is the **best** tree.  
Right in my own backyard.  
Can I get on that high branch up there?  
It **couldn't** be that hard!"

"**SSSSNNNNAP!**" The branch was cracking.  
-----"Whoops! Made a mistake!"  
**THUMP!** He fell. "**That didn't hurt!**  
But why did **my** branch have to break?"

David walked into the house,  
Still rubbing his left arm.  
He had landed right **SMACK** on it.  
Well, that was that. At least he now felt calm.

David went up to his room,  
And plopped down on his bed.  
He had wanted to be **BIG**,  
But just got hurt instead.

"Please, God. Can You make me **BIG**?  
Let me get **BIGGER now**.  
Isn't there **some** way I could?  
Can't You show me how?"

Just then David heard something.

He'd heard that sound **a lot**.

He wanted to ignore it.

But **this** time, he could not.

So he went and asked his sister,

"Why are you crying **now**?"

"I want to play outside," she sobbed,

"But Mummy won't allow."

"She said we're having dinner soon,

And now it is too late.

Mummy said, 'Tomorrow.' But -

That's **much** too long to wait!"

His little sister cried and cried.

David knew what he should do.

He didn't feel like saying it,

But out came - "I'll play with you."

"**You will? You will!**" grinned Tali,

With tears still on her cheeks,

She looked at her brother and squealed,

"Let's play Hide-and-Seek!"

David didn't like to play with girls,

And for **sure** not a little sister,

But it felt kind of good to make her glad,

And play some nice games with her!

That night when David went to bed,

After his busy day,

His mother came into his room.

She had something to say.

"David, you know, before dinner,

I saw what you had done.

You helped your sister very much.

You helped her to have fun."

"You may think that's something little,

But it **really** was not.

You made your sister happy.

That's a **BIG** mitzvah you got!"

David didn't say a word,

But when she had gone out,

He lay in his bed, smiling,

**Boy**, did he want to shout!

Instead he whispered, "Thank you.

I feel **BIG** now, God. It's true.

And now I know **how we all** get **BIG**.

We get **BIG** mitzvot to do!"

## Children's Service: Years 3- 6

### Activity



#### **Lost on a Desert Island**

The situation is dire — following a shipwreck, everyone has been stranded on a deserted island! Each child is allowed to bring one object to the island — ideally something that represents them or something that they enjoy. Each child is asked to describe what object they would bring and why. It doesn't have to be realistic; if someone loves music, he or she might choose to bring a guitar, or an animal lover might choose to bring a dog, a food lover might choose to bring their favourite food, and so on. Encourage children to be creative.

After everyone has introduced their object and why they have chosen that object, divide the children into smaller groups and ask everyone to work together to improve their chances of survival by combining the various objects that they introduced. If necessary, you can add more objects, but be sure to use all the objects that everyone mentioned. If you wish, you can reward the most creative group with a prize. Tell the children, that by pooling their resources, by being inclusive, everyone has an important part to play.



## Discussion Points



**A True Leader of the People – Moshe (Moses) was standing with the Jewish people on the last day of his life. He knew that he would not be allowed to enter the Promised Land. Yet, he was not filled with self-pity. He did not feel sorry for himself, but instead, went out of his way to encourage the people and give words of encouragement to them and the next leader, Joshua. Moshe (Moses) was a true leader to the very end.**

- Think of all the people in your life who you look up to as leaders and follow. It could be teachers, parents, club leaders, friends, football coaches, dance instructors, Martial Arts instructors.
- What makes you want to follow them?
- What are their special qualities?
- Would you like to be like them? Why?
- Why, in your opinion, was Moshe (Moses) such a special leader?
- What makes a good leader?

## Tefilla Treasures



---

In last week's Tribe Spark we learnt that Yitzchak (Isaac) established the afternoon prayer – Mincha.

Yaakov (Jacob) established the evening prayer called Maariv, as we are told in the following verse in the book of Bereishit/Genesis.

## Yaakov/Jacob

וַיֵּלֶךְ יַעֲקֹב בְּמִקְרָם וַיָּשֵׁם בַּיּוֹבָא הַשְׁמָשָׁה

'He (Yaakov) reached the place and spent the night there...because the sun had set'

**For Abraham in the morning, for Isaac in the afternoon and for Jacob in the evening, these specific times were chosen by each, as special moments to speak to and pour their hearts and minds out to God.**

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

**Song – Eitz Chaim Hee – The Torah is a Tree of Life**



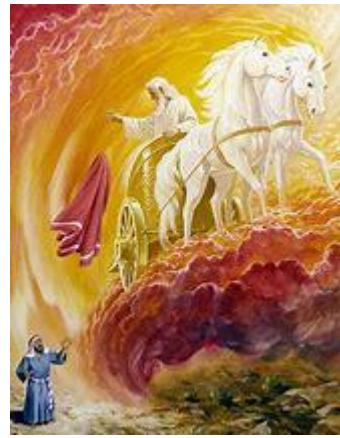
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=u5qOUmo1W08>

Eitz chayim hi lamachazikim bah,  
v'tom'cheha m'ushar. D'racheha  
darchei noam v'chol n'tivoteha sha-  
lom. Hashivenu Adonai eilecha  
v'nashuva, chadesh yameinu k'k-  
edem.

עַז חַיִם הִיא לְמַחְזִיקִים בָּה. וּתְמַכִּיחַ מְאֹשֶׁר:  
דַּרְכֵיכֶם נָעַם וְכָל בְּתוּבָתְיכֶם שָׁלוֹם:  
בְּשִׁיבָנו ה' אֱלֹהֵינוּ וְנִשְׁׂוֹבֵה. חִידָשׁ יָמֵינוּ בְּקָדְםָם:

It is a tree of life for those who hold fast to it, and those who uphold it are happy. Its ways are pleasant, and all of its paths peaceful. Return us to you, God, so that we shall return, renew our days as of old.

## Harachaman



[https://www.chabad.org/multimedia/media\\_cdo/aid/692752/jewish/10-Harachaman-of-Eliyahu-Song.htm](https://www.chabad.org/multimedia/media_cdo/aid/692752/jewish/10-Harachaman-of-Eliyahu-Song.htm)

הרחמן, הוא ישלח לנו את אליהו הנביא זכור לטוב, ויבשר לנו בשורות טובות ישועות  
ונחמות

Harachaman  
hu yish'lach lanu  
et Eliyahu Hanavi  
zachur latov  
(x2)

Viy'vaser lanu - lanu  
Viy'vaser lanu - lanu  
Viy'vaser lanu -  
b'sorot tovot -  
yeshu'ot venechamot.

## **THE MERCIFUL ONE**

The merciful one  
he will send us

Elijah the Prophet  
may he be remembered for the good  
(x2)

And he will herald to us - to us  
And he will herald to us - to us  
And he will herald to us  
glimpses of good tidings to come -  
redemption and consolation