



November 2018

Welcome to Spark, the Tribe weekly parsha activity sheet for Children's Service Leaders across the United Synagogue communities.

Thank you for offering to run a service, for all the hard work that 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 parsha, a song, an activity, discussion questions or D'var Torah linked to the parsha 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 hope you and the children at your service 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 your amazing work.

With best wishes,  
Sharon Radley  
[sharonradley@tribeuk.com](mailto:sharonradley@tribeuk.com)

## TERUMAH 5779

### Parsha Summary:

- God tells Moshe to ask the Jews for a voluntary offering towards the construction and functioning of the Mishkan (Tabernacle). The materials needed are gold, silver and copper; turquoise, purple and scarlet wool; linen, goat hair, dyed ram skins, skins of the tachash animal, acacia wood, oil, specific spices and particular precious stones (for placing in the Kohen Gadol's garments). God then instructs Moshe about how to make different features of the Mishkan: The Aron (ark) was made from acacia wood, plated with gold on both the inside and outside, and with a gold crown (zer) around the top. It had four gold rings attached to it, two on each side, with a gold-plated wooden stave left permanently between each pair of rings, in order to carry the Aron. The Tablets of the Ten Commandments were placed in the Aron.
- The Kaporet (cover) of the Aron was made of pure gold, with two cherubs moulded on top, facing one another and with their wings touching. The Shulchan (table) was made from gold-plated acacia wood, with a gold crown (zer) on its lid (misgeret). It had rings and staves to carry it, like the Aron. The show bread (Lechem Hapanim) was placed on it.
- The Menorah was hammered from one piece of pure gold, with seven lamps. The Mishkan had ten yiriyot (curtains), made of linen and patterned wool, with golden hooks joining them together. The Ohel (tent), draped over the Mishkan, was made of 11 curtains of goat hair, with a further double michse (cover) on top, one made from dyed ram skins, the other from tachash skins.
- The kerashim (planks) and their enjoining bars were made from gold plated acacia wood.
- The Parochet (partition), was made of wool and linen. It was placed on the southern side of the Mishkan, to cordon off the Kodesh HaKedoshim (Holy of Holies) area, which housed the Aron.
- The Mizbeach (altar) was made of copper-plated wood, with four corner pieces and with staves attached to rings to carry it.
- The Chatzer (courtyard) surrounded the Mishkan; its outer 'fence' was made of linen yiriyot (curtains), attached to wooden pillars.

## Children's Service: Tot's – Year 3

- Tip: The information in the parsha summary above can be used as the basis of a quiz. Make sure if you do decide to have a quiz that it's inclusive and fair. Think through carefully before your service to decide if a quiz is a suitable activity for the dynamics of your group.

### **Discussion: The Mishkan/Tabernacle**

The parsha this week contains the instructions from God about how to build The Mishkan. (See below for pictures of the Mishkan. The pictures have been taken from Rabbi Baruch Chait's book 'The Avoth Melacha of Shabbath'. Permission has been granted for them to be used only at your Children's Service.) Print out the pictures and show the children what the Mishkan looked like. Ask them what they see and what they think the parts are. What do they think is underneath the Mishkan coverings?

Explain that when the Jewish people were in the desert after coming out of Egypt, they were instructed by God to build the Mishkan. The Mishkan would be the place where they would connect with God and where He would communicate with Moshe after the Ten Commandments were given. It was like God's home.

Show the children the Courtyard with the Mizbeach (Altar) in it and point out the coverings of the Mishkan. The central feature of the Mishkan was the Aron (Ark) which housed the Tablets, the Shulchan (The Table) which had twelve special loaves of bread on it at all times and the seven branched Menorah.

For more information go to:

[www.artscroll.com/Details.aspx?itemNo=9781422610749](http://www.artscroll.com/Details.aspx?itemNo=9781422610749), scroll down and click on the video and book pages to view more pictures of the Mishkan

Explain to the children that today we no longer have the Mishkan and synagogues are places that can inspire us to come closer to God.

**Song: 'Hashem is here, Hashem is there...'**

(The tune for this can be found on YouTube)

The children should point to the direction that is mentioned.

Hashem is here, Hashem is there,

Hashem is truly everywhere.

Up, up, down, down,

Right, left, and all around,

Here, there, and everywhere,

That's where He can be found

**Discuss** what items there are in a Shul. See how many the children are able to think of. (The Aron, Bimah, Sefer Torah, Ner Tamid, Yad, Siddur, Chumash) Can they compare any of them to the items in the Mishkan?

**Song:** to the tune of 'The wheels on the bus.'

The curtains on the Ark go swish swish swish

Swish, swish, swish, swish, swish, swish

The curtains on the Ark go swish, swish, swish

All day long.....

The bells on the Sefer go ding a ling a ling

The people in the shul stand up and sit down

The Rabbi in the shul goes daven daven daven

The Chazzan in the shul sings nice and loud

The children in the shul sing Adon Olam

The people in the shul say Shabbat Shalom

## **Activity: Inside Outside**

In the parsha we learn that the holy ark which held within it the tablets of the Ten Commandments was covered with pure gold - not only on its outside, which could be seen, but on its inside as well. Our sages teach us that we can learn from here that we too, should strive to keep our 'insides' -- our personal behaviour -- consistent with our 'outsides' -- the ideals we talk about and express to others.

### **Activity: 'Mirror partner'**

Split the children into two's and ask one of them to mime some actions such as a morning routine in the bathroom mirror (rub eyes, stretch, yawn, brush teeth, wash hands and face...) Number two child should mirror these actions by copying them. Change over when this is done.

When you have played the game, the children should sit down again. Discuss that in the game they were acting like mirrors of each other.

- Was it difficult?
- Do they ever become influenced or copy other children and end up behaving in a way that they really know inside themselves isn't how they think they really should be behaving?

If you have a picture of the Aron in the Mishkan, show it to the children. If not, explain that the Aron was covered with pure gold – not only on the outside which could be seen, but on the inside too. Why would the inside be gold if it couldn't be seen?

We learn from this that we too should work to keep our insides the same as our outsides. We should be 'true' to ourselves and try to not to become influenced.

## Children's Service: Years 3- 6

- Please check the activities written in the age group above as some of them may be suitable for your service too.
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Explain to the children that today we no longer have the Mishkan and synagogues are places that can inspire us to come closer to God. Which items in the Mishkan remind them of items in a shul?

### **Activity: The Melachot of Shabbat**

Explain to the children that the 39 categories of work that were performed in the construction of the Mishkan are the melachot that are prohibited on Shabbat. If you look closely at the pictures that have been attached you will see all of these 39 categories written inside the coloured boxes. Split the children into groups and ask them to choose one of the 39 categories to mime to the other groups. The other groups should guess what is being acted. Give the children some time to practise their mimes. (See below for the full list of the 39 melachot.)

Explain to the group that although many of these activities are not relevant to us today, (unless you are a farmer!) there are modern day equivalents. For example, one category is Mechabeh / Extinguishing (done in order to make charcoal.) Due to this we don't turn on and off lights on shababat. (Ensure you are sensitive when you address this topic and only use it if you know your group well enough to know their individual needs.)

### **Activity: Inside Outside**

Mirror partner: Split the children into two's and ask one of them to mime some actions such as a morning routine in the bathroom mirror (rub eyes, stretch, yawn, brush teeth, wash hands and face...) Number two child should mirror these actions by copying them. Change over when this is done.

When you have played both games, the children should sit down again. Discuss that in the game they were acting like mirrors of each other.

- Was it difficult?
- In real life, is the way they behave a mirror of the way they present themselves?
- Do they ever say to people that they do one thing but then when they are not with those people they behave in a different way?
- Are they true to their inner beliefs?
- Do they know what 'integrity' means?

If you have a picture of the Aron in the Mishkan (see below) show it to the children. If not, explain that the Aron was covered with pure gold – not only on the outside which could be seen, but on the inside too. We learn from this that we too should work to keep our insides consistent with our outsides. The way we act and feel should be the same as the ideals we express to others. If one's inner self is at odds with the outer mask that he presents to the world he will never be at peace and will always feel that he is living a lie.

### **Discussion: The Mizbeach/Altar**

In the parsha we learn about the Mizbeach in the Mishkan where the Kohanim would make food holy. Today we don't have the Mishkan or the Mizbeach but we can show our appreciation to God by making the way we eat and what we eat holy. Our tables can become like the Mizbeach. How? Discuss.

- Trying not to waste.
- Only take what we think we will eat.
- Don't stand on food that's fallen on the floor – pick it up and throw it away.
- Don't have food fights.
- Eat in a calm way
- Eat healthily
- Use the energy that food gives us to do good things
- Thank God before and after eating

"They shall make an Ark of acacia wood...you shall cover it with pure gold, from within and without shall you cover it, and you shall make on it a gold crown all around" (Terumah 25:10-11).

Book of Exodus



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"You shall make a Table of acacia wood...you shall cover it with pure gold and you shall make for it a gold crown all around...on the Table shall you place show-bread before Me, always" (Terumah 25:23-24, 30).

*Book of Exodus*



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\*You shall make the Tabernacle of ten curtains - twisted linen with turquoise, purple, and scarlet wool - with a wooden design of cherubim shall you make them\* (Terumah 26:1).

*Book of Exodus*



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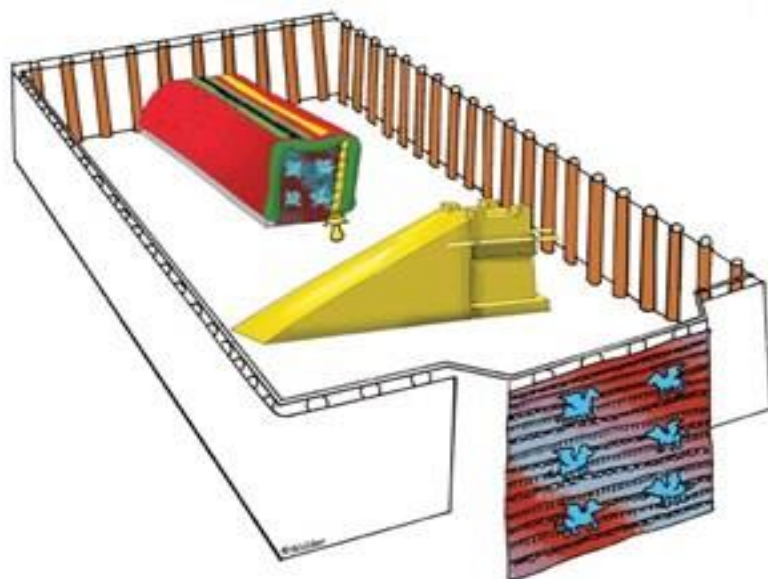
"You shall make a Menorah of pure gold...its base, its shaft, its cups, its knobs, and its blossoms shall be (hammered) from it. Six branches shall emerge from its sides..." (Terumah 25:31-32).

*Book of Exodus*



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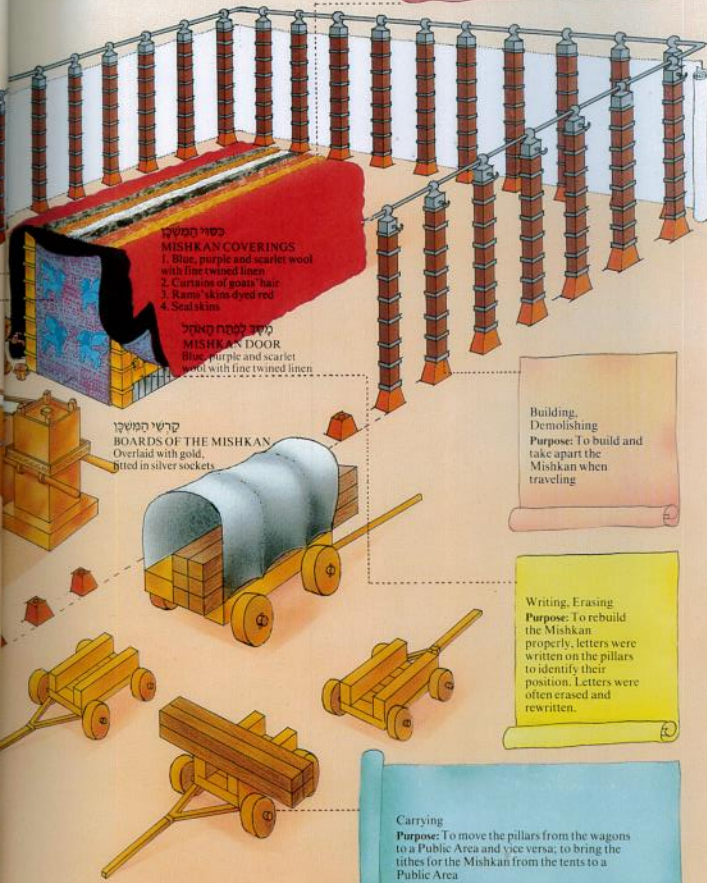
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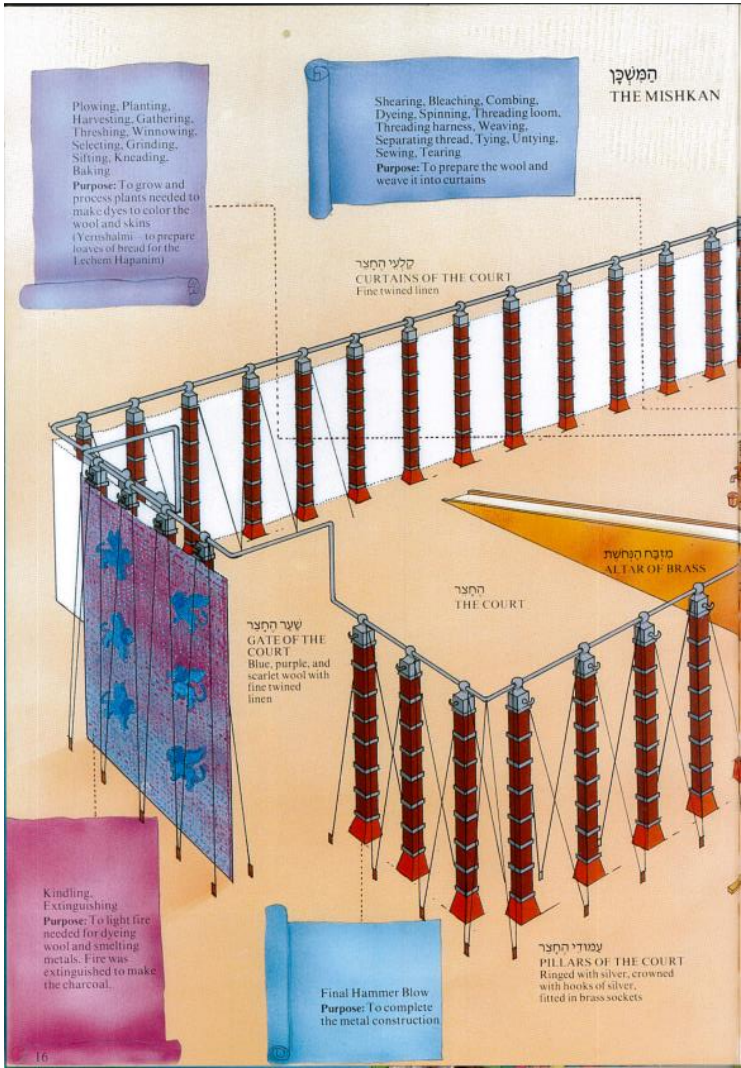


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THE TORAH TEACHES US THAT ONLY THE 39 MAJOR CATEGORIES OF WORK PERFORMED IN THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE MISHKAN ARE THE AVOT MELACHA, PROHIBITED ON THE SHABBATH.

Trapping, Slaughtering, Skinning, Tanning, Smoothing, Marking, Cutting  
**Purpose:** To prepare the skins for the Mishkan covering





## The 39 Melachot:

(The melachot can be divided into 6 groups according to the Mishkan's activity with which they are linked.)

### **Field Work**

- Sowing
- Plowing
- Reaping
- Binding Sheaves
- Threshing
- Winnowing
- Selecting
- Grinding
- Sifting
- Kneading
- Baking

### **Making Material Curtains**

- Shearing Wool
- Cleaning
- Combing
- Dyeing
- Spinning
- Stretching the Threads
- Making Loops
- Weaving Threads
- Separating the Threads
- Tying a Knot
- Untying a Knot
- Sewing
- Tearing

## **Making Leather Curtains**

- Trapping
- Slaughtering
- Skinning
- Tanning
- Smoothing
- Ruling Lines
- Cutting

## **Making the Beams of the Mishkan**

- Writing
- Erasing

## **The Putting up and Taking down of the Mishkan**

- Building
- Breaking Down

## **The Mishkan's Final Touches**

- Extinguishing a Fire
- Kindling a Fire
- Striking the Final Hammer Blow
- Carrying