

KS2 Children's Service Guide

Parasha: Bereishit

Shabbat Info

Hebrew date: 24th – 25th Tishrei, 5785

Gregorian date: 25th - 26th Oct, 2024

London Shabbat times: 17:32 - 18:33

Special events: Shabbat Bereishit. Blessing the new month of Cheshvan.

Upcoming events in the week: Rosh Chodesh

Cheshvan Friday and Shabbat.

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Parasha Thinking

- 1) Can you remember what Hashem made on each day?
- 2) Imagine you were Adam. Can you act or describe how he may have felt on his first night of his existence, when it got dark?
- 3) How does the word, grain, link to the Parasha?

Key Parasha Information

Summary

Hashem (G-d) created the entire world in six days.

Day 1: He made dark and light

Day 2: He made the Heavens and separated the upper waters from the lower waters.

Day 3: He made land and sea. Trees and plants came on this day, too.

Day 4: Sun, moon and stars are placed in their positions.

Day 5: Fish, birds and reptiles were created.

Day 6: Land animals and human beings now exist. Hashem made the first human body – Adam, from dust of the Earth, and blew into him, a "living soul." Hashem took a side from the man, made it into a lady – Chava (Eve), and the two of them got married.

Day 7 - Shabbat: Hashem stopped creating on this day and rested. Hashem made this day Holy.

Adam and Chava lived in the beautiful Garden of Eden, and had every need met. They had one rule – do not eat from the "Tree of Knowledge of Good and Evil." A talking snake convinced Chava to try some of the fruit and after taking a bite, she gave some to Adam. They received many punishments but the main two were they now had to work, to get their food, build their homes, make their clothes etc and they had to leave the beautiful Garden of Eden.

Adam and Chava had two sons; Cayin (Cain) and Hevel (Abel). Cayin argued with Hevel and killed him out of jealousy. Adam and Chava had a third son, Sheyt (Seth).

Discovery

Did you know that there is only one day of the week that has a specific name, and that is Shabbat?

Did you know that Hashem asked Adam to name all the animals? He gave them names based on their characteristics.

Did you know that there were 10 generations between Adam and Noach (Noah)?

Good to Know

This Shabbat is known as Shabbat B'reishit. We make extra effort for this Shabbat because we want this one to be the first of many great Shabbatot over the entire Jewish year.





Gratitude

Who has done something special for you this week and what did they do? (If they are present, go up to them and say thank you!)

Games

1) Noughts and Crosses



Divide group into two teams and ask them guiz guestions based on the Parasha summary. Each time a team gets a question right, they earn a nought or a cross and can place it down for their team.

Resources: four scarves for the noughts and crosses board, preprinted noughts and crosses.

2) Wink Murder

(link to Cayin and Hevel)

One child steps outside the door and the leader points to another child in the circle, making sure everyone in the room has seen who was selected. The child outside enters and the game begins. The child who was selected winks at other children and they count to five and then pretend to collapse. The guesser has two guesses before everyone collapses.

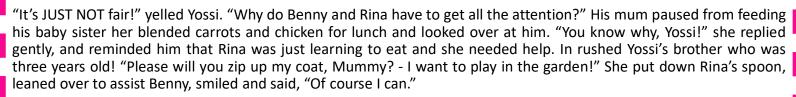
3) Create a story

(link to creating the world)

Sitting in a circle, you create a steady beat with everyone tapping their knees. Person one starts the story and each participant adds another word, on the beat. ONE DAY THERE WERE TWO LITTLE SISTERS WHO WERE SO EXCITED TO GO TO SHUL etc.

Story

(One of the children can read this out loud – encourage them to use expression.)



This made Yossi scowl. 'I was talking to her and then Benny just ran in and grabbed her attention, he thought.' "I would like the same level of attention, too!" Yossi demanded, thinking that this would really help him feel validated. "Are you sure?" his Mum checked! "Certain!"

At supper time, Yossi's Mum gave him a plate of soft food, sat right near him, put some mashed potato on a spoon and brought it to his mouth. Yossi shook his head and asked what was happening? His Mum reminded him that he had asked for the same level of attention as his siblings. 'I didn't mean you should FEED me!' he thought. At bedtime, Yossi's mum put toothpaste on his toothbrush and started to brush his teeth for him. Through lots of bubbles and foam, and of course, shock, Yossi remembered that he had asked for the same level of attention that his brother and sister got ... but now that it was actually happening, it didn't feel so great after all.

In the morning, he was looking forward to his toast but in front of him was soft, mushy porridge. Mum smiled and reminded him that he had asked to be equal to the little ones and confirmed that they still had oats in the morning.

On the way home from school, it was Yossi's Mum's turn on the rota. In hopped Yossi and his friends and Yossi was asked by his Mum, to jump into the baby seat, even though he was way too tall and it was really embarrassing.

That night Yossi couldn't fall asleep – he kept thinking about his young siblings. He realised that he had no need to feel jealous of them as they all get exactly what they need, at their own age.

- 1) What can we learn from this story and how does it connect to the Parasha?
- 2) Have you ever been jealous of someone and then come to an important realisation?
- 3) Do you think there was a better way for Yossi to learn that everyone is given exactly what they need?