BNEI AKIVA

Tu Bishvat

PEULAH

BNEI AKIVA OF THE UNITED STATES & CANADA
The topic that we chose to learn about this Tu Bisvhat is the Mitzvot Hatluyot Ba’aretz. We are suggesting a number of small activities, where each one represents a different mitzvah. After doing the activity and learning about that mitzvah, the chanichim will earn tokens, which they will use to “buy” their seeds. They will plant them in a multi-pocket wall planter (it’s separated from the ground so it’s shmitta-friendly - another opportunity to learn), and be able to decorate their pocket.
The mitzvah of Leket is to let poor people pick up grain from stalks that fell during harvest. For example, if you are carrying wheat out of your field, but you drop a couple stalks, you must leave it there for the poor to take. If you dropped more, then you are allowed to pick them up.

Bring two buckets and fill one with a lot of foam/stress balls. Have the chanichim try to carry as many balls as possible to the other basket. If only 1 or 2 fall its fine and they can continue and bring the balls into the other basket. If more than that, then they have to collect it all and try again.
Kilaim

Kilaim has a number of meanings, but in this context we are talking about planting. Small plants, like vegetables need to be planted 12 c”m apart from different types of vegetables.

See print-outs for a possible activity. You will need 4 different colored markers as well.
Each square = 12 cm x 12 cm

Each square can contain:

- 5 Carrots
- 2 Cucumbers
- 1 Pumpkin
- 3 Tomatoes
Is there enough room?

- 25 carrots
- 4 pumpkins
- 9 tomatoes
- 4 cucumbers

Is there enough room?

- 20 carrots
- 5 pumpkins
- 9 tomatoes
- 6 cucumbers

Is there enough room?

- 15 carrots
- 3 pumpkins
- 15 tomatoes
- 8 cucumbers

Is there enough room?

- 20 carrots
- 2 pumpkins
- 12 tomatoes
- 14 cucumbers

Is there enough room?

- 10 carrots
- 6 pumpkins
- 15 tomatoes
- 8 cucumbers
Limmud Torah During Shmitta

During Shmitta, if the farmers can’t really work the land, what should they do all year? Go to the movies everyday? Play sports? While these are definitely fun options, farmers would spend their time learning Torah on Shviit. Try learning these few mishnayot and see if you can answer a question that you draw from the hat.

See Mishnayot, and questions sheets to cut, fold and place in a hat, bowl, or any other receptacle.

Other Mitzvot you can include are: Trumot and Maasrot, Pe’ah (leaving a corner of your field for the poor), shich’cha (if you forget your produce in the field you need to leave it for the poor), Heiter Mechira, 7 year shmitta cycle, etc.

We have also included designed tokens to be printed and cut out. For each station, once the activity has been completed, award them a token. When they complete them all, they will purchase their seeds with the tokens, and decorate their pocket.

Chag Ha’illanot sameach!
Mishna Masechet Peah

These are the things that have no definite quantity: The corners [of the field], First-fruits; [Bikurim], being present at the Beit Hamikdash during the 3 Regalim, The performance of righteous deeds; And the study of the torah.

The following are the things for which a man enjoys the fruits in this world while also benefiting in the world to come: Honoring one’s father and mother, The performance of righteous deeds, the making of peace between a person and his friend, And the study of the torah is equal to them all.

Mishna Masechet Shviit

Until when may one plow an orchard in the sixth year (before Shmitta)? Bet Shammai say: as long as such work will benefit the fruit (of the sixth year, as opposed to the seventh). And Bet Hillel says: till Atzeret (Shavuot). The views of this are close to those of the other - (They come out to a similar time.)

Mishna Masechet Challah

Five species [of grains] are subject to [the law of] hallah: wheat, barley, spelt, oats and rye. These are subject to hallah, and dough made from different types of these grains are accounted together one with another [as one quantity].
Questions to Ask on Mishnayot:

• Name one item that appears on both lists in the first mishna of Pe’ah

• Which item is equal to all the others?

• Name two things that benefit a person in this world, and the next?

• Until when can you plow according to Beit Shammai?

• Until when can you plow according to Beit Hillel?

• Name 4 out of the 5 grains that require hafrashat challah