



# Kids Parsha Packet

פֿאַרשע לילדים

## Parshat Vayeshev

Last Week in Parshat Vayishlach:

Yaakov and Esav meet after many years.

### The most special piece of clothing

Do you have lots of sisters and brothers? Yaakov has twelve sons (and one daughter)! That is definitely a lot of children and a lot of mothers (4!). Yaakov comes to Eretz Canaan after a long trip away from home and after the reunion

with his brother Esav. Now he resettles in Eretz Canaan with his large family. Yaakov wants a good, peaceful life. But things don't always work out as we plan... Yaakov makes his son Yosef, the oldest son of Rachel, a ketonet passim (woolen tunic). This is a special garment, and it is clear to everyone that sees Yosef wearing it that it was made especially for him. How would you feel if only one of your siblings received a gift from your father and the rest of the siblings did not? You would probably feel jealous or not very happy, right? This is what starts to happen in Yaakov's home. The brothers become jealous of Yosef because of the special treatment he gets from their father, and they begin to hate him!

"וישראל אהב

את יוסף

מכל בניו...

ועשה לו

כתנת פסים"

(ל"ז, ג')

"Now Israel loved Joseph more than all his sons... and he made him a fine woolen tunic" (37:3)

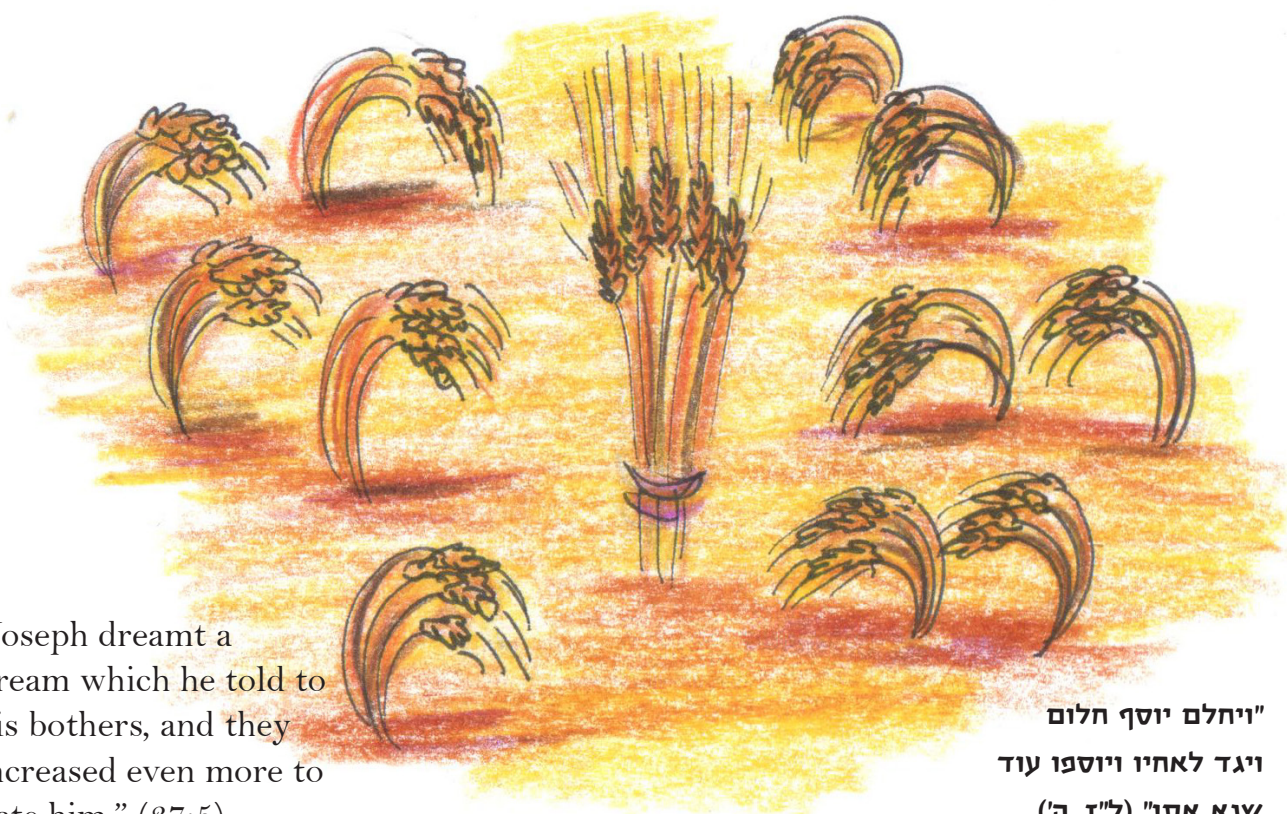


### Activity

"Ketonet Passim" – Bring all of your striped clothing into the living room, and decide which one is the most special!

## I had a dream last night

Yosef has a lot of dreams at night, and he likes to share his dreams with his brothers. Do you think it is good or bad to share dreams? Normally, there is no reason not to talk about the dreams that you have at night. The problem is that Yosef's dreams are about his brothers, and it is not very pleasant for them to hear about them. Yosef tells his brothers about two dreams that he dreamt. In one dream, he and his brothers are working in the field and each of his brothers has a sheaf (a bundle of grain wrapped together). Suddenly, all of the brothers' bundles stand up and bow down to Yosef's bundle. What does this dream mean? The brothers understand it to mean that Yosef will rule over them and they will serve him. When the brothers hear the dream, they hate him even more and can no longer even look at him. It is not enough that their father made him a special garment, now he also dreams that he will rule over them?! Afterwards, Yosef tells them about another dream of his, that the sun, moon, and eleven stars bow down to him. This is another dream that means that he will rule over all of them (even his parents!).



“Joseph dreamt a dream which he told to his brothers, and they increased even more to hate him.” (37:5)

”ויחלם יוסף חלום  
ויגד לאחיו ויוסף עוד  
שנא אתו” (ל”ז, ה’)



Do you dream? Do you remember them in the morning?

**Activity**

“Dreams” – Everyone tells the family two stories, one that is real and one that happened in a dream. Everyone needs to guess which story is real and which story is a dream.



## You can't dream when you're in a pit...

Yaakov tries to make peace between Yosef and his brothers. He sends Yosef to check on his brothers who are shepherding the sheep far from home. The brothers see that Yosef is approaching, and instead of being happy to see him, they are very angry that the “dreamer” is coming towards them, and they prepare to hurt him. Some of the brothers suggest killing him and then saying that he was attacked by a wild animal. Would you think of doing something like this to one of your siblings? Siblings often hit each other and have lots of fights, but in most cases it doesn't go nearly this far... The brothers hate Yosef so much that they are prepared to hurt him to such an extreme. Reuven, the oldest brother, does not want to hurt Yosef. He decides that when Yosef comes, they will throw him into a pit. Yosef arrives, and the brothers grab the Ketonet Passim that Yaakov made for him and throw him into a pit that does not have water inside.



“Then they took him, and cast him into the pit; and the pit was empty, no water was in it.” (37:24)

“ויקחהו וישלכו  
אתו הברה  
והבור רק  
אין בו גים”  
(ל"ז, כ"ד)



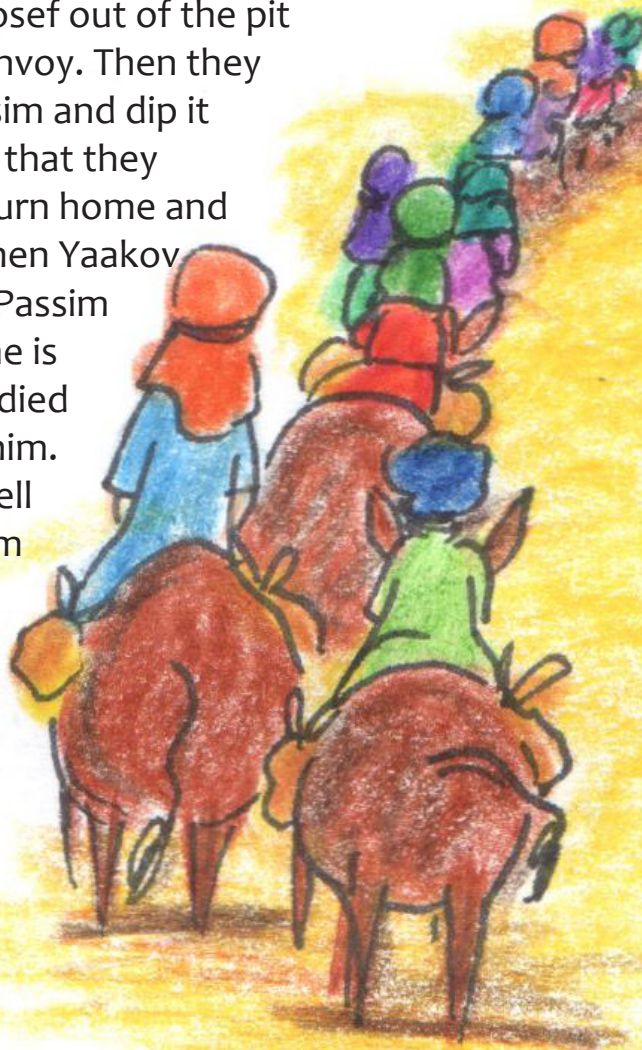
Have you ever had a fight with your siblings?

### Activity

“Wild Animal” – One member of the family acts like a wild animal, and everyone needs to guess what animal he is...

## The special garment is destroyed

Yosef is in the pit, and his brothers sit down to eat. Suddenly a convoy of Yishma'elim passes by on camels on the way to Egypt. Yehuda, one of the brothers, sees the convoy, and he has an idea. He suggests to his brothers that instead of hurting Yosef or killing him, maybe they should sell him to the convoy as their slave. This way they will get rid of Yosef and they will not need to see him anymore. The brothers agree to this idea. They take Yosef out of the pit and sell him to the convoy. Then they take the Ketonet Passim and dip it in the blood of a goat that they slaughtered. They return home and show it to Yaakov. When Yaakov sees Yosef's Ketonet Passim all covered in blood, he is convinced that Yosef died and wild animals ate him. The brothers do not tell Yaakov the truth. From that day on, Yaakov is very sad and he cannot get over the pain of losing his son. In the meantime, Yosef is sold as a slave in Egypt to a man named Potifar.



וַיִּקְחוּ אֶת  
כֶּתֶנֶת יוֹסֵף  
וַיִּשְׁחָטוּ  
שְׂעִיר עִזִּים  
וַיִּטְבְּלוּ אֶת  
הַכֶּתֶנֶת בַּדָּם  
(ל"ז, ל"א)

"They took  
Joseph's tunic,  
and they  
slaughtered  
a male of the  
goats and  
dipped the tunic  
in the blood"  
(37:31)



*What is the best way to resolve a fight?*

## Next Week In Parshat Miketz...

We will see what happens to Yosef in Egypt...

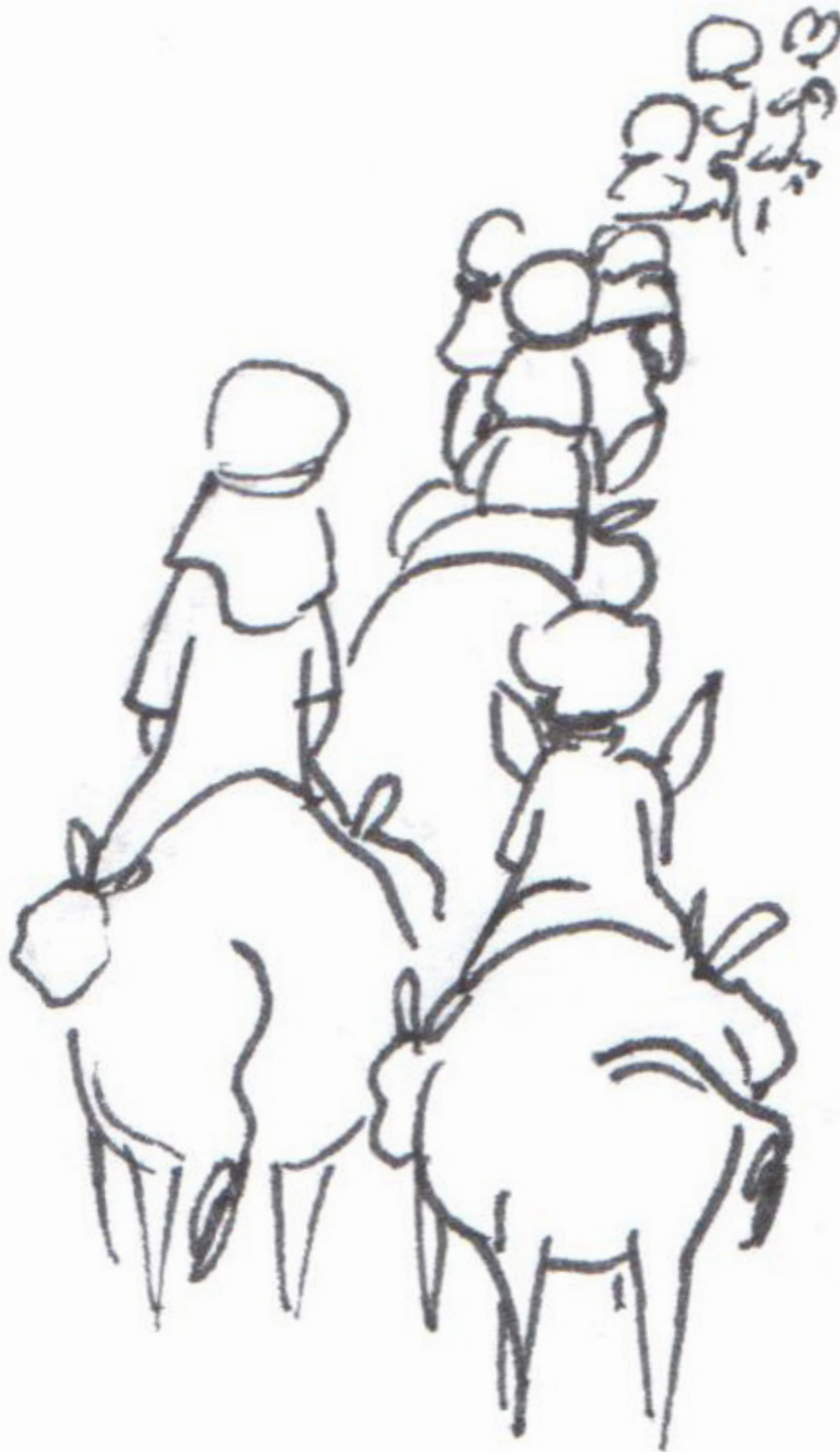
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# Shabbat Shalom!

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