



Kids Parsha Packet

פֿאַרשֶׁה לִילְדִים

Parshat Bo

Last Week in Parshat Va'eira:

Hashem sends harsh plagues on Egypt, and Pharaoh refuses to free Bnei Yisrael...

Lots of locusts...

Moshe and Aharon come to Pharaoh and warn him that if he does not allow Bnei Yisrael to leave Egypt, a very harsh plague will come to the land of Egypt, and the land will be covered with locusts. Small flying insects will come and eat of all the crops that remain in Egypt after the plague of hail destroyed many of them. And what do you think Pharaoh answered? He refuses of course. But then Pharaoh's servants come to him and beg him to free Bnei Yisrael already, because they are causing too much damage to Egypt. But Pharaoh agrees to free only the men and not the entire nation, so Moshe and Aharon do not accept his offer. The next day, miraculously, a strong desert wind blows, and locusts come to Egypt.

In every place that there is grass, fruit, trees, crops and food, the locusts destroy it all. During the plague there are so many locusts that they cover the sun and there is darkness in Egypt! The locusts also go into the Egyptians' houses.

There is a lot of suffering but Pharaoh stays stubborn and refuses to free Bnei Yisrael.



"וַיַּעַל הָאֲרֵבָה

עַל כָּל אֶרֶץ

מִצְרַיִם

(י', י"ד)

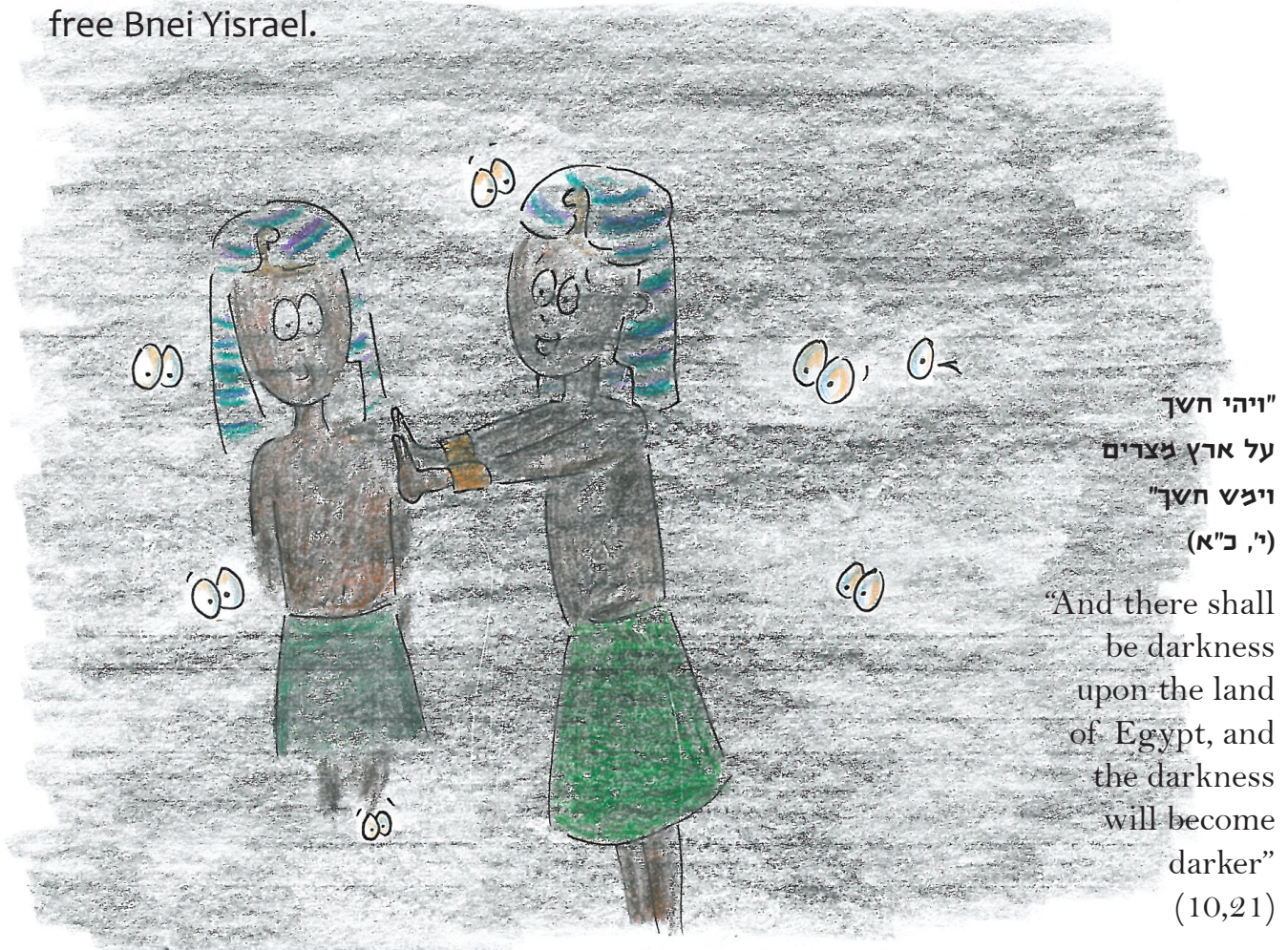
"The locust-swarm ascended over the entire land of Egypt" (10,14)

Activity

"Please" – The king (one member of the family) orders the rest of the family to do all sorts of things (jump, sing, crawl, etc.). Whoever doesn't want to do what the king ordered must beg the king and explain why. If the king is convinced, then he is free; if he is not convinced, then he must continue following the king's orders (for example, "I don't want to jump because it will mess up my hair", "I don't want to crawl because my clothing will get wrinkled", "I don't want to sing because I have a terrible voice"...)

Impossible to move

We would think that after all these harsh plagues in Egypt, Pharaoh would have sent Bnei Yisrael away. But nothing has changed. Pharaoh's heart is hard and despite all the suffering of his nation, he does not let Bnei Yisrael go and Egypt continues to be destroyed by the plagues. The Egyptians have nothing to eat because of the locusts, and now Hashem sends another plague (this is already the 9th one!). This time there is great darkness in Egypt. For three days the Egyptians cannot move at all. They can't go to work or even speak to one another, because they cannot see a single thing! Do you know who has light? Bnei Yisrael, who are not affected by the plagues that Hashem sends to Egypt. Pharaoh asks Moshe to stop the plague, and he says he will free all of Bnei Yisrael, the men, women and children, but not the sheep and cattle. Moshe refuses to accept this condition, and again Pharaoh refuses to free Bnei Yisrael.



Who is afraid of the dark?

Activity

"Dark room" – Close the blinds on the windows and turn off the lights. Everyone hides, and one person needs to find everyone else in the dark. You can use sounds if you want to.

The First Seder Night

Hashem tells Moshe that he is about to bring one last plague upon Egypt, the harshest plague of them all, and afterwards Pharaoh will agree to free Bnei Yisrael. Before the plague begins, it is important to prepare Bnei Yisrael. Moshe explains to Bnei Yisrael that a very harsh plague is about to come to Egypt, and in order for it to pass over their houses and not affect them, they must stay inside all night and spread blood on their door frames and door posts. Also, Hashem tells Bnei Yisrael to prepare to leave Egypt at any moment during that night: to put their bags on their backs, wear shoes on their feet, and have their walking sticks ready to go. During the night each family will eat roasted meat with Matzah and Maror (bitter herbs), and they must eat it in haste (very quickly). This was the first Pesach (Passover) that was celebrated in Egypt, and since then, each year in the month of Nissan we celebrate the Passover holiday. We have a seder night to remember how we left Egypt and all of the great miracles that Hashem did for Bnei Yisrael in Egypt.

“It is a Pesach feast-offering to Hashem, Who skipped over the houses of the Children of Israel in Egypt”
(12,27)

“זבח פסח הוא לה'
אשר פסח על בתי
בני ישראל בעצרים”
(י"ב, כ"ז)



Is our seder hasty like it was in Egypt? (Or: who is the hungriest by the time we get to the seder meal?)

Activity

“Quickly, quickly”- Bring different articles of clothing, items, and bags, and have a competition. Who is the first one ready to leave Egypt?

It is finally happening!

In the middle of the night, Hashem sends the harshest plague of all, Makat Bechorot (the plague of the firstborn sons)... The firstborns in Egypt, people and animals alike, all die. Bnei Yisrael obeys to Moshe, stays inside and spreads blood on the door frames of their houses. This protects them from the harsh plague. Pharaoh quickly calls Moshe and Ahraon and decides to free all of Bnei Yisrael- the men, women, and children, and even the sheep and cattle. And Pharaoh is not the only one who wants to free Bnei Yisrael. All of the Egyptians who suffered from all the plagues pressured Bnei Yisrael to leave Egypt as quick as possible. Bnei Yisrael prepared dough for bread so that they will have food for their journey, but because they rush out of Egypt, the dough does not have enough time to rise. When Bnei Yisrael starts to bake their dough, instead of bread they bake matzahs. Since then we eat matza on Pesach. After 430 years in Egypt, Bnei Yisrael finally go free...



וַיְהִי בַעֲצֵם הַיּוֹם
הַזֶּה הוּצֵא ה' אֶת
בְּנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל
מֵאֶרֶץ מִצְרַיִם
עַל צְבֹאתֵם
(י"ב, נ"א)

"It happened
on that very day:
Hashem took the
Children of
Israel out of
the land of Egypt,
in their legions" (12:51)



Would you want to eat matza all year long?

Next Week In Parshat Beshalach...

We will see what happens when Pharaoh regrets that he freed Bnei Yisrael.

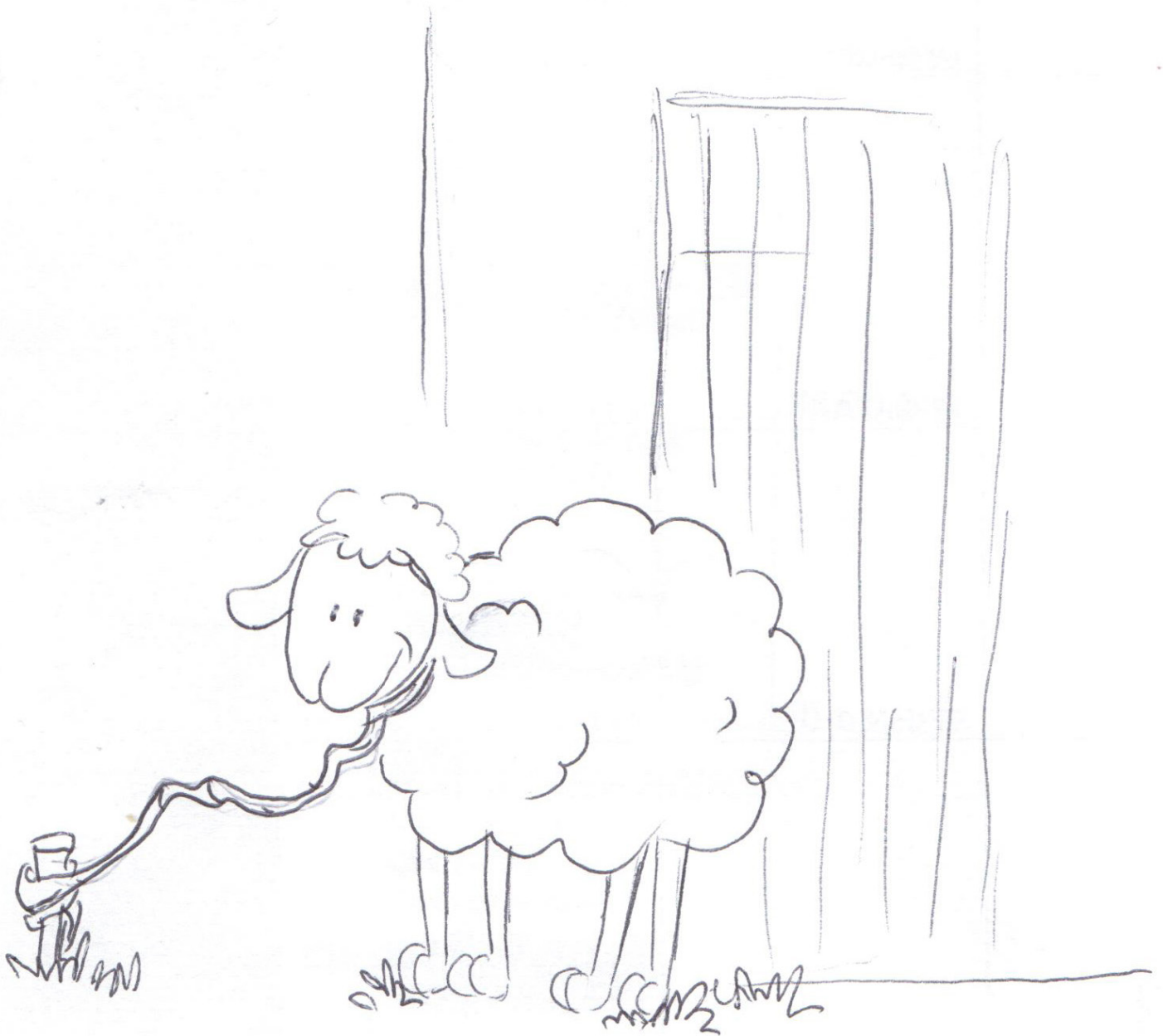
Shabbat Shalom!

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Coloring page



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