



Kids Parsha packet

פֿאַרשׂה לילדים

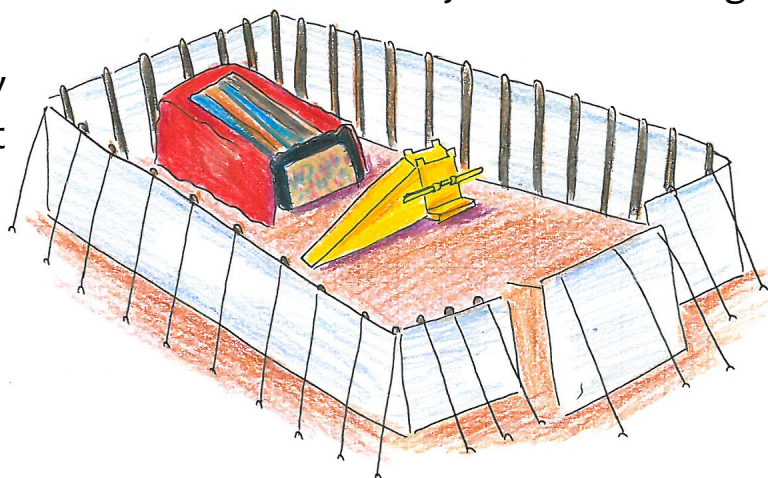
Parshat Terumah

Last Week in Parshat Mishpatim:

Hashem teaches Moshe many chukim (laws) that describe Bnei Yisrael's responsibility for one another.

A House for Hashem

Hashem commands Bnei Yisrael to build him a Mishkan – a type of home. Just a minute, does Hashem really need a home? If he doesn't have a body, then why does he need a house?! Hashem obviously doesn't need a real house, but he wants a place where he can speak with Bnei Yisrael, and where Bnei Yisrael can serve him. But Bnei Yisrael are in the desert, where will they build him a house? Do Bnei Yisrael even have a place to live and sleep in the desert? Do they have rooms with beds and air conditioning? Of course not. The best way to live in the desert is to pitch a tent. Have you ever pitched a tent? The big advantage of a tent is that it is easy to assemble and to take down. Bnei Yisrael will be taking a long journey through the desert, and tents make it easier to move from place to place. Hashem commands Bnei Yisrael to build a Mishkan that is similar to a tent, made of boards, rods, and rings that are easy to build and take down. It is important to remember that the Mishkan is a temporary structure that Bnei Yisrael will use as they wander through the desert. When they reach Eretz Yisrael they will build the Beit Hamikdash, a permanent building.



וַעֲשׂוּ לִי מִקְדָּשׁ
וְשָׁכַנְתִּי בְתוֹכָם
(כ"ה, ח')

"They shall
make Me a
Sanctuary"
(28,8)



How long could you sleep in a tent? (Bnei Yisrael slept in tents for forty years!)

Let's be generous

Bnei Yisrael left Egypt and are now wandering in the desert. How will they be able to build a house for Hashem? In order to build a house you need lots of materials! Hashem asks Bnei Yisrael to give a terumah, a donation, in order to build the Mishkan for Hashem. Do you know what terumah means? It means that people give money or objects as a gift, without expecting anything in return. In order to successfully build the Mishkan for Hashem, Bnei Yisrael had to contribute their personal items, which would be used to build the Mishkan. If you needed to give terumah, how much would you donate? There is no one answer to this question. When people give terumah, they give as much as they want and no one tells them how much to give. Hashem teaches Bnei Yisrael that terumah is an act of listening to your heart and inner desires. There are laws that explain exactly how to build a house for Hashem, so terumah can be given from all different types of materials, including gold, silver, fabrics, jewelry, gems, oils and more.



"וּיקחו לי תרומה"

גֹּאֵת כָּל אִישׁ

אֲשֶׁר יִדְבְּנוּ לָבוֹ

(כ"ה, ב')

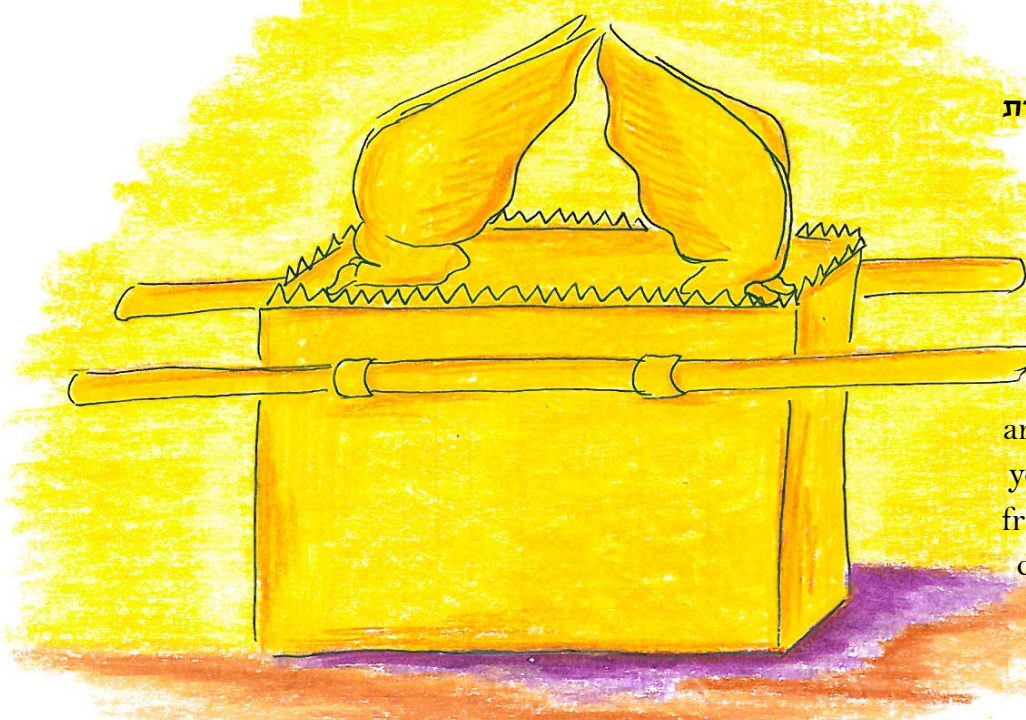
"They shall
take to Me a
portion, from
every man whose
heart will
motivate
him"
(25,2)



Is it easy or hard to give a donation?

The most important place

Hashem explains to Moshe how the Mishkan will look and which keilim (vessels) it must contain. As you already know, the Mishkan will serve as a house for Hashem. It is not a real house like ours', but a place where Hashem can speak with Moshe and where Bnei Yisrael can serve Hashem, as we'll discuss later on. The Aron, the holy ark, is the first vessel that Hashem commands Moshe to prepare. The Aron is placed in the Kodesh Ha'kodashim, the Holy of Holies, which is the most important place in the Mishkan that only Moshe and the High Priest may enter. The Aron has a very important role. Hashem speaks to Moshe through the two cherubim that are placed on the Aron, which is how Bnei Yisrael knows what Hashem commands. The Torah that Hashem gave to Bnei Yisrael is kept inside the Aron. The Aron has a cover that is called the kaporet, and the cherubim, two figures with wings, are placed on top. The two figures face each other, and the midrash tells us that when Hashem was angry at Bnei Yisrael the cherubim turned and looked away from each other... Poles were attached to the Aron so that the kohanim (priests) could carry it during their travels through the desert.



"וְנוֹעַדְתִּי לְךָ שָׁם
וְדִבַּרְתִּי אִתְּךָ מֵעַל הַכַּפֹּרֶת
בֵּין שְׁנֵי הַכְּרֻבִּים
אֲשֶׁר עַל אֲרוֹן הָעֵדֻת"
(כ"ה, כ"ב)

"It is there that
I shall arrange
audience with you,
and I shall speak with
you from atop the lid,
from between the two
cherubim that are on
the Aron of the
testimony"
(25,22)



What is a nicer way for two people to speak to each other? When they face one another or when they turn their backs?

Activity

"Who blinks first?" - Stare each other in the eye, and the first one to blink loses the game.

Light and scent

Have you ever been away from home and really missed it?

What did you miss most? When we think about home, we often think about our mother's delicious food and how wonderful it smells. We think about the warmth and light that makes our home so special. We already learned about the heart of the Mishkan, the place where the Torah is stored and where Hashem speaks to Bnei Yisrael. Now the Torah tells us about another part of the Mishkan called the Kodesh, the holy place, which is a big room that holds the Shulchan (table) and the Menorah.

The Shulchan is a table on which the lechem hapanim is placed. Lechem hapanim is special bread that is baked every Friday, and stays fresh until the following Friday. The kohanim, the priests, eat this special bread. The Shulchan also has poles that are used to carry it through the desert.

"ועשית

שלחן

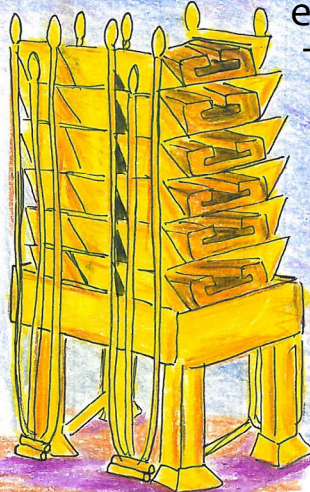
עצי

שטים

(כ"ה, כ"ג)

"You shall make a Shulchan of shittim wood"

(25, 23)



The Menorah lights up the Mishkan every day and is lit by the kohen.

The Menorah was made of pure gold and was decorated with golden goblets, flowers, and knobs. The Menorah later became the symbol of the State of Israel and of the Jewish people.



"ועשית

מנורת

זהב

טהור

(כ"ה, ל"א)

"You shall

make a

Menorah

of pure

gold" (25,31)

Activity

"Light and scent" – Find places in your home that emit light and scents.

Next Week In Parshat Tetzaveh...

We will learn about the clothes of the Kohanim and their jobs in the Mishkan.

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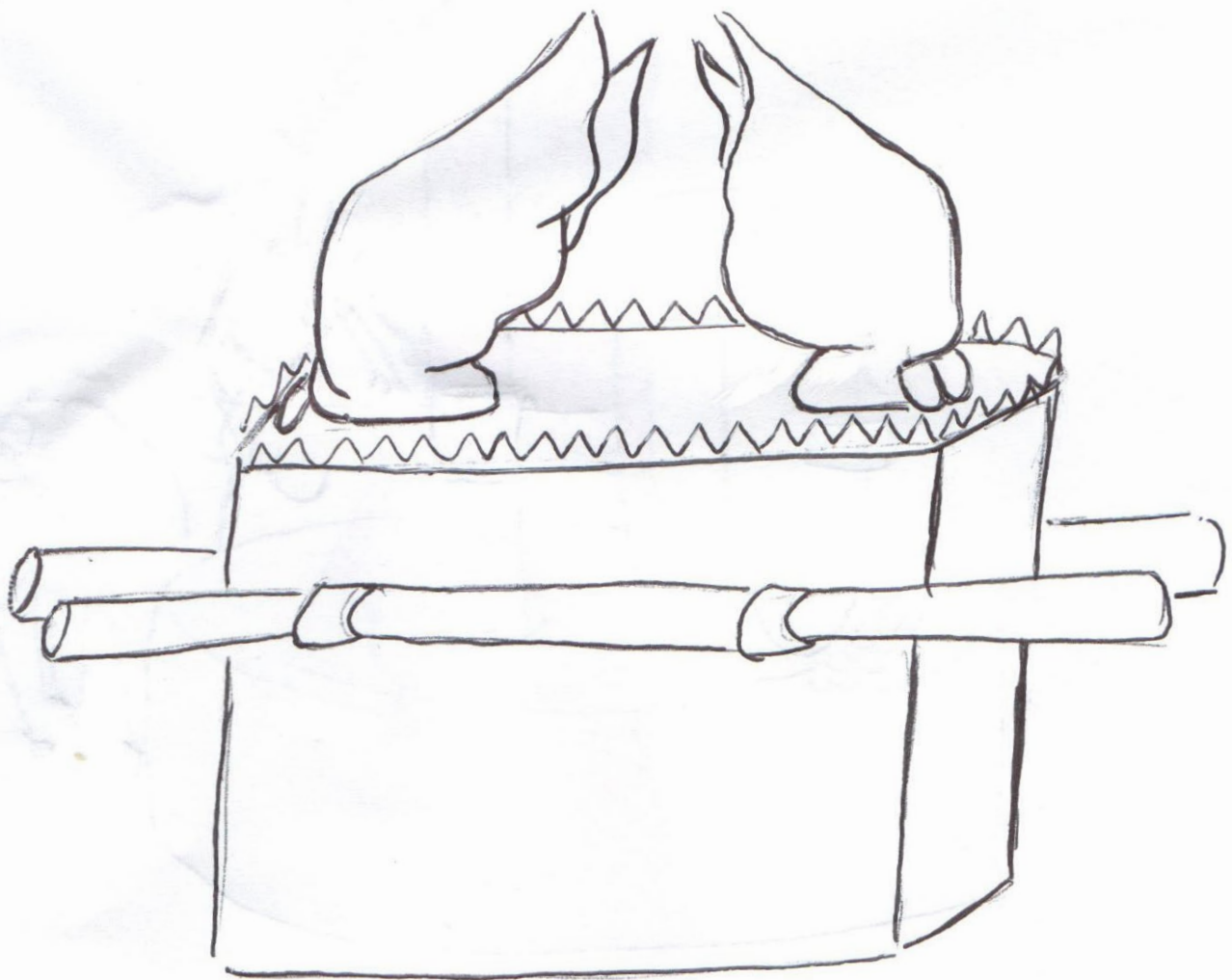
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Coloring page



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