



Kids Parsha Packet

פִּשְׁט לילדים

Parshat Bechukotai

Last week in Parshat Behar

We learned that the land and people rest every seven years, during the shemita year.

If you obey me....

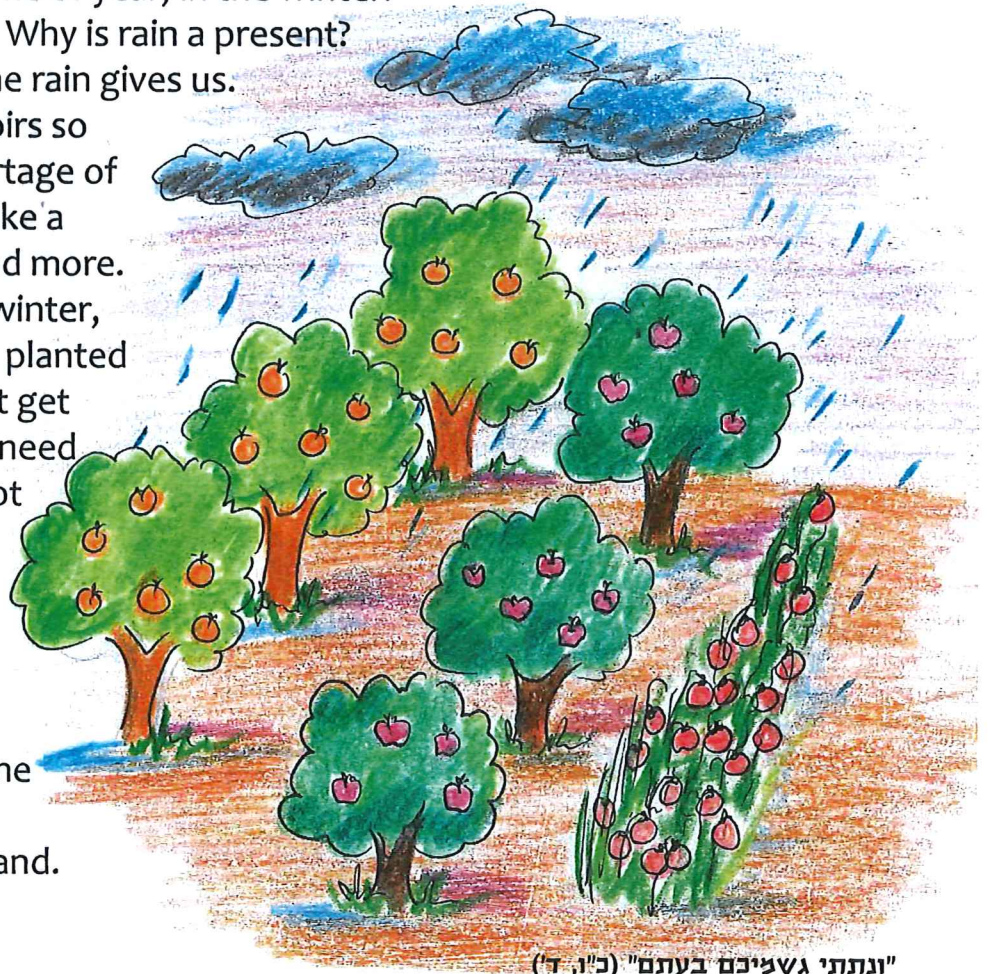
Did you ever get a present for doing a good deed? Hashem says to Bnei Yisrael that if they obey Hashem and keep his mitzvot, they will get gifts. What kind of presents does Hashem give Bnei Yisrael? One of the most important ones is rain at the right time of year, in the winter.

What a strange gift! Why is rain a present?

Think about what the rain gives us.

Rain fills our reservoirs so that there is no shortage of water to drink, to take a shower, to swim, and more. Without rain in the winter, the seeds that were planted in the ground do not get the water that they need to grow. They do not produce fruit, vegetables and grains - all of the things that we need to survive.

Rain in the wintertime is a blessing for the people and for the land.



"וְנָתַתִּי גֶשְׁמִיכֶם בְּעֵתָם" (כ"ו, ד')

"Then I will give your rains in their season" (26,4)



Do you like to get presents? What was the best present you ever received?

If you do not obey me...

Did your mother or father ever warn you not to be wild because you might get hurt? Why did they warn you? Because they care about you and want to protect you. Hashem warns Bnei Yisrael that if they do not listen to him and do not keep the mitzvot, the consequences can be very bad. Hashem

explains to Bnei Yisrael that the Land of Israel is a holy place. If we do not behave as we should, Hashem will remove us from the land and scatter us all over the world. This may sound like fun! We can travel and see the world. But think about the long journey that Bnei Yisrael took to reach the Land of Israel. They worked very hard as slaves in Egypt, spent 40 years in the desert, and then arrived in Israel and built houses and planted trees, fields and vineyards. And after all that hard work they will have to leave everything behind! They will have to start all over again in a new country, where they do not know the language or the customs. Some nations also treated them badly. That does not sound easy or much fun, does it?

"ואתכם אצרה
בגוים"
(כ"ו, ל"ג)

And you I
will scatter
among the
nations"
(26,33)



What is the farthest place that you have ever been from home?

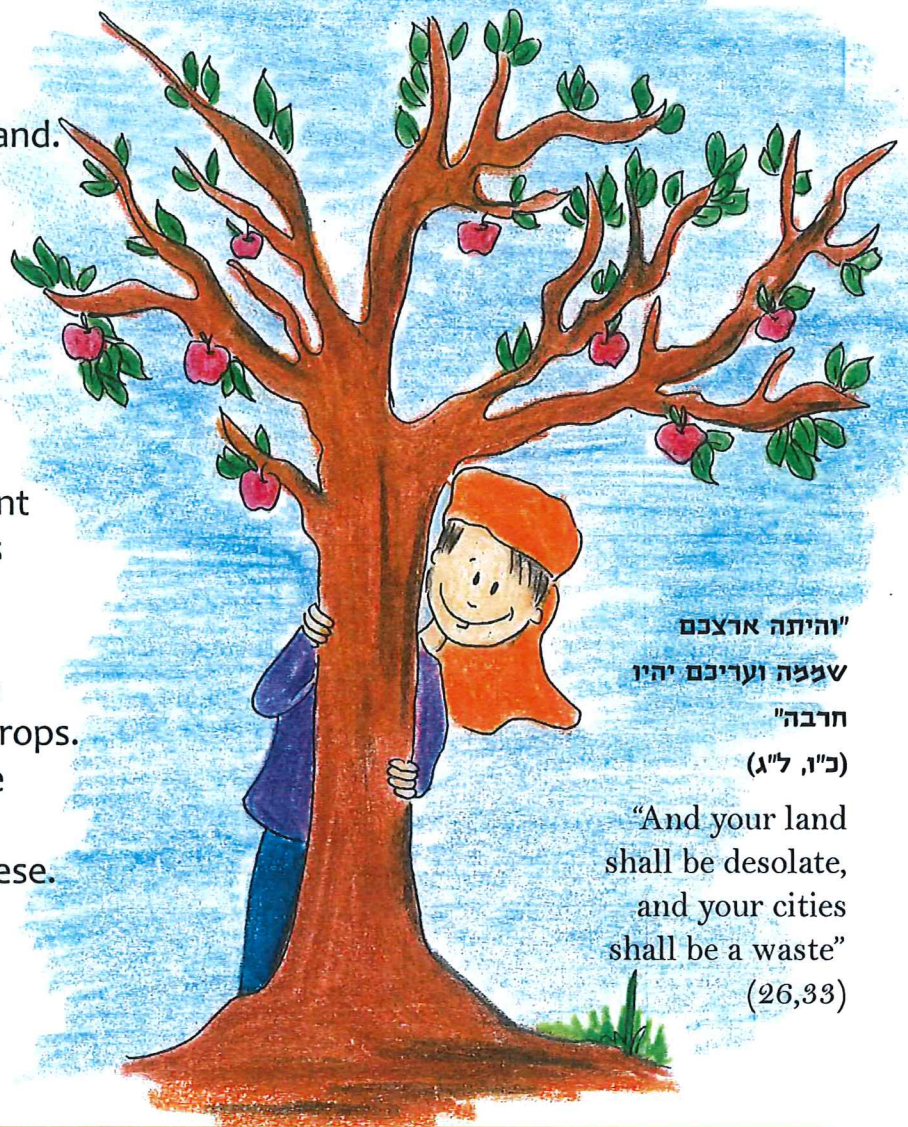
Activity

"Far from home" – Put on a hat and a backpack, get your walking stick ready, and pretend that you are on a long journey far away from home. Act out how you would deal with the following situations: a thunderstorm, wild animals from the jungle, a storm at sea, and more. It's all make believe, of course.

What will happen to the Land of Israel once we leave?

When Bnei Yisrael is forced to leave the Land of Israel, that is not their only punishment. There is a strong connection between Bnei Yisrael and the Land of Israel. Hashem tells Bnei Yisrael that once they are exiled from the land, its cities will be destroyed, the land will not be blessed, and it will become a great wasteland. Many years ago, when the Beit Hamikdash stood in Yerushalayim, Hashem punished Bnei Yisrael for not keeping the mitzvot, and they were forced to leave the Land of Israel. Very few Jews remained, and they lived under very difficult conditions.

Many houses were destroyed, the land no longer produced crops, and it became a wasteland. The Land of Israel was abandoned for a long time. Just a few weeks ago we celebrated Yom Ha'atzmaut, the day when the State of Israel was founded. Before the establishment of the state, many Jews returned to live in the Land of Israel. They built cities and the land was blessed with crops. We hope and pray to be worthy of seeing many more joyful days like these.



"והיתה ארצכם
שגמה ועריכם יהיו
חרבה"
(כ"ו, ל"ג)

"And your land
shall be desolate,
and your cities
shall be a waste"
(26,33)



Do you feel connected to the Land of Israel? How do you feel the connection?

Activity

"Rebuilding the desolate land!" - Use toys like Legos, blocks and more to build houses, buildings, a barn with animals, and fields, and help rebuild Eretz Yisrael!

The book of Vayikra comes to an end

Do you remember how the book of Vayikra began? Hashem teaches Moshe and Aharon about the work done by the Kohanim in the Mishkan. We talked about which sacrifices were brought and how to bring them, what purity and impurity means, and how to keep the Mishkan pure at all times. And we learned so much more! We learned about tzara'at, mitzvot related to how we treat other people, holidays and more... And now we have reached the end of the book of Vayikra! When Bnei Yisrael camped by Har Sinai, Hashem taught Moshe many mitzvot and Moshe taught Bnei Yisrael the Torah. We saw that the book of Vayikra includes many mitzvot and details that are important for us to remember in order to keep the Mishkan holy and the camp pure. This shows us how important it was for the Kohanim to learn the Torah and teach it to Bnei Yisrael, and how hard they worked to maintain the Mishkan.

"These are the commandments, which Hashem commanded Moses for the children of Israel in mount Sinai" (27,34)

אלה הפצות אשר צוה ה' את משה
אל בני ישראל בהר סיני" (כ"ז, ל"ד)



חזק חזק ונתחזק!

Activity

"What does the book of Vayikra talk about?" – Test your memory! Prepare a quiz with questions, charades and more about the topics in the book of Vayikra (for example, what are the names of the different sacrifices? Which mitzvot relate to poor people? You can act out specific holidays or things that a Kohen may not do. Use previous parsha packets to get ideas).

Next week we will begin the book of B'midbar!

Shabbat Shalom!

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 Pashut for kids

Coloring page



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