

# Kindness to Animals Lesson Plan

Target grade level: Kindergarten/First Grade

Learning Objectives:            Students will learn about the Jewish value of tz'ar ba'alei chayim, compassion or kindness to animals  
Students will practice the value of tz'ar ba'alei chayim by creating a bird feeder to feed the birds

## Story: **How to Heal a Broken Wing** by Bob Graham (10 minutes)

- Objective: Students will learn about the Jewish value of tz'ar ba'alei chayim, compassion or kindness to animals
- Have the child practice saying *tz'ar ba'alei chayim* in repeat after me fashion
- Discussion questions:
  - What do animals need to live?
  - What things did Will do to care for the bird?
  - Who helped Will care for the bird?
  - How can we protect wild animals?
  - How can we protect pets?
  - How can we respect animals?

## Craft: **Bird Feeder (15 minutes)**

- Objective: Students will practice the value of tz'ar ba'alei chayim by creating a bird feeder to feed the birds
- Explain that the students will also be decorating the bird feeders.
  - By doing so, they are practicing another Jewish value, that of *hiddur mitzvah*, beautifying objects.
  - Practice saying *hiddur mitzvah* in repeat after me fashion
- To make the bird feeder, students will decorate the plates with crayons. Make sure they write their names. The plates will be prepped to have four strands of twine tied through hole punches in the four corners of the plates. Students can add beads to the strands of twine to decorate their feeders. Each child will take home a bag of bird seed to add to their plates once they are hung up, as well as bird feeder instructions.

## Supplies:

- Paper plates, prepped with four strands of twine tied through four hole punches
- Beads
- Crayons
- Bird seed in individual bags
- Book: **How to Heal a Broken Wing**

