

Sample Purim Lesson Plan (Kindergarten/First Grade)

Learning Objectives:	Students will practice the Hebrew for “good morning” Students will review each other’s names Students will learn about the Jewish holiday of Purim Students will learn and perform the 4 Mitzvot of Purim Students will review the Purim tradition of using groggers by making their own which can also be used for their Seudat Purim Students will review the holiday of Purim Students will be able to tell the story of Purim Students will participate in one of the mitzvot of Purim, the reading of the Megillah Students will participate in one of the mitzvot of Purim, the making (and giving) of Mishloach Manot
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Students arrive

Boker Tov Welcome Song + Circle (10 minutes)

- Objective: Students will practice the Hebrew for “good morning”
- Objective: Students will review each other’s names
- Each child will be welcomed with the **Boker Tov song** and a physical movement of their choice
- The class tzedakah box will be passed around and those who brought tzedakah can give

Story + Discussion: Purim (10 minutes)

- Objective: Students will learn about the Jewish holiday of **Purim**
- **Read: The Purim Chicken**
 - **Discussion of The Purim Chicken**
 - Who showed bravery in this story?
 - Being brave is an important part of the Purim Story
 - When we read the Megillah after class, we will learn more about how bravery is such a large part of the Purim story
 - You may already know some of the traditional ways Purim is celebrated. **The Purim Chicken** shows the animals engaging in many traditional Purim activities. Can you share any of them that you recognized?
 - They dress in costume
 - They create groggers to make noise during the reading of the Megillah (the Book of Esther)
 - They plan to eat hamantaschen, the triangular Purim cookies

- They put on a play! A Purim spiel has been a Purim custom for a long time. It is often silly retelling of the Purim story
- **Discussion of the Jewish holiday of Purim**
 - Many people hear Purim and think of the special cookies (hamantaschen) and the super fun carnival. These are important parts of Purim, but there's a lot more to this holiday as well.
 - Today we will learn about the story of Purim, the characters of Purim, the main symbols, the four mitzvot of Purim, and how Purim is traditionally celebrated.
 - We already learned about many traditional activities from **The Purim Chicken**
 - On Purim we celebrate the bravery of Queen Esther, a very brave Jew. She was married to a king, King Ahashverosh. When Esther learned that Haman, who worked for the king, was plotting against the Jews, she summoned the courage to tell the king about Haman's evil plan and saved the Jewish people.
 - We will read our class version of the Megillah, the Purim story, after recess and learn more about the story of Queen Esther, the King, and evil Haman and what symbols are connected to this holiday
 - Purim also helps us learn about courage, bravery, and standing up for what's right.

Introduce the 4 Mitzvot of Purim (5 minutes)

- Objective: Students will learn and perform the 4 Mitzvot of Purim
- Introduce the 4 mitzvot of Purim through the 4 Mitzvot of Purim Checklist
 - Today we will be celebrating Purim by performing the 4 mitzvot of Purim (this year, only 3 because of covid protocols)
 - Hear the Megillah
 - Give to the needy
 - Deliver mishloach manot
 - Enjoy a Purim feast
- **Question:** what mitzvah did we already do today? **GIVING TZEDAKAH**
- As we perform the other two mitzvot of Purim you can color in the mask next to the mitzvah to check it off. When you go home and finish the fourth mitzvah, the Purim feast, you can check that off as well.

Craft: Pasta Groggers (15 minutes)

- Objective: Students will review the Purim tradition of using groggers by making their own which can also be used for their Seudat Purim
- **Craft: Pasta Groggers**
 - Students will decorate a sheet of construction paper with crayons and stickers.

- Once decorated, they will wrap the paper around the mac and cheese box and tape it closed.
- Remind children that when they go home they can use the mac and cheese for their Purim Seudah, their festive Purim meal

Recess (15 minutes)

Story: Our Interactive Megillah (10 minutes)

- Objective: Students will review the holiday of Purim
- Objective: Students will be able to tell the story of Purim
- Objective: Students will participate in one of the mitzvot of Purim, the reading of the Megillah
- Use our interactive Megillah: printed Purim story on paper with pictures of the main characters that can be rolled up
- **USE THE PASTA GROGGERS TO BOO HAMAN WHILE READING!!!**
- Now that we have read the Megillah, the Purim story, we can talk about some of the symbols of this holiday
 - Hamantaschen symbolize evil Haman's hat
 - Groggers are used to drown out Haman's name
 - Crowns can be used to represent the king and/or Queen Esther
 - Horses can be used to represent Mordecai, when he was led around the palace wearing the King's clothes and seated upon his horse
 - Masks are often used to portray Esther and how she initially hid her Jewishness, but then revealed it in order to save the Jewish people
 - Costumes are often worn to remind us that Purim is a joyous holiday, and to remind us that not everyone is what they seem

Activity: Make Mishloach Manot (15 minutes)

- Objective: Students will participate in one of the mitzvot of Purim, the making (and giving) of Mishloach Manot
- **Activity:**
 - Students will decorate paper bags
 - Students will decorate Mishloach Manot "cards"
 - Students will place raisins, bags of nuts/chips and candy in the paper bags
- Remind children they can cross off this item on their 4 Mitzvot of Purim checklist

Closure (10 minutes)

- Review
- Alef Bet Song

- Shalom Chaverim Song

Supplies:

- Book: **The Purim Chicken**
- Crayons
- Construction paper
- Purim stickers or cut outs
- Glue
- Washi tape
- Boxes of mac and cheese
- Paper bags
- Mishloach Manot cards
- Raisin boxes
- Bags of nuts or chips
- Candy