

A Seder that's Fun, Spiritual and Meaningful for Ages 3 -103



Rabbi Dr. Jeffrey Kobrin

What are our goals?

Have fun!

Educate

Engage with Torah interactively

Eat yummy food

Pass on something to which your family will want to return

Create memories

Choose your goals -- and plan towards them!

How do we teach? How do we learn?

Orally

Tactile / Sensory

Visually

Actively

Intellectually

What makes learning hard?

What makes it easy?

When I'm hungry

When I feel tired

When I feel bored

**When I feel like I'm going to be embarrassed
or made to feel stupid (e.g., not knowing
an answer or how to pronounce a word)**

Feeling like there's a lot of pressure to perform

When I'm having fun

When I'm laughing

When I'm physically comfortable

When I feel relaxed

When I feel supported

When I get praise for participation

The Seder starts before the Seder

Something EVERY day leading up to Seder: Sun/Mon/Tues/Wed

Go over the story... children's books, screenings of The Prince of Egypt or even a classic: The Ten Commandments

Enough devices! The more physical and learning and games the better we all will feel

Kids and blue tape - allow for decoration EVERYWHERE - and blue painter's tape is our best friend

The more work the kids do, the more ownership they will feel at the Seder itself

Prepare your physical space!

Cut out templates of pyramids

Playmobil or Lego on table

Decorate like you are in Egypt or crossing the sea

Sea on the walls / fish or waves

Pictures, some will want to put up words or slogans

Window paint! Let them at it

Art supplies – whatever someone is into: MCU? Moshe as Iron Man, Pharoah as Thanos? Or do they like Peppa Pig?

Take lots of pictures for those who can't be there!

How can a table look?





The table is not the limit...







The day of...

NAP!

EAT FOOD: A hangry Seder will not be successful - nosh all day and full meal at 5pm

Karpasfest: a dipping course: Carpas Celery and cashew butter, berries and chocolate? Carrots and pesto?

Plague theme: plastic cups with red jello and jelly fish or white French macaroons with red (barad)

Froggie Meringues!

Pyramids out of toothpicks and marshmallows

Candy (or more sophisticated chocolate for grownups) for every answer or activity tried

SODA!

Embrace the imperfect

Spread it out over four meals. Late nights are hard for all.

Sing “Who Knows One” at lunch

Don't put too much pressure on it being perfect; it doesn't have to look like in the movie

If people find the Hebrew stressful, no problem; switch to English

If someone wants a lot of lumdish Torah, great, and if someone else does not, great – everyone gets a little and everyone should be respectful towards each other - candy, candy, candy

Follow the leader - timing, pacing. This can be a rotating role.

Engage memory

Seder is about stories: ours as a people, but also our individual stories.

Slip questions under people's plates:

What's your favorite seder song and why?

What's your favorite pesach food and why?

(For adults) What's your favorite childhood seder memory?

With what would you replace the matza?

Be a reporter covering the Exodus/ frogs/ darkness...

What do you think of as a plague (timely)

What was a journey our family took?

What was a redemption that you experienced?

What are four questions that YOU have?

Who would you cast as...

What makes you feel scared?

What real life person is like Moses/Pharaoh and why?

Which superhero is.../ which supervillain is...

Goal: get people to tell their own stories

Be active!

Paper bag dramatics – go into the room and come out as... (snorkel/tube)

Costumes - raid the dress up box: Egyptians / slaves / the four sons; baby Moshe - with a real baby?

March around the table and sing - the Dayenu dance

Run around like a maniac – because it's hard for anyone to sit

Play “lean” yoga when you recline

Play “Headbands”

Limits: the three minute attention span

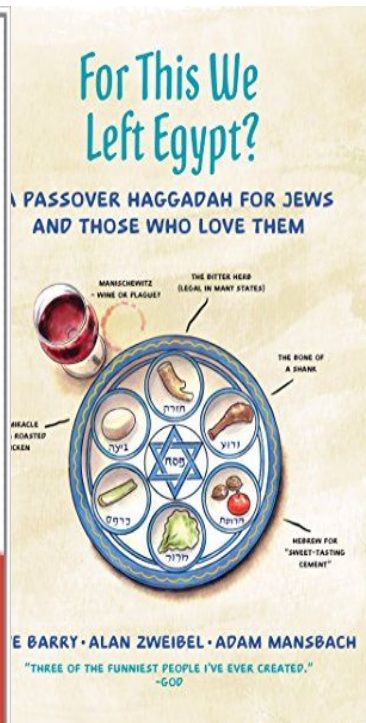
Songs – practice before if you need - sing AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE

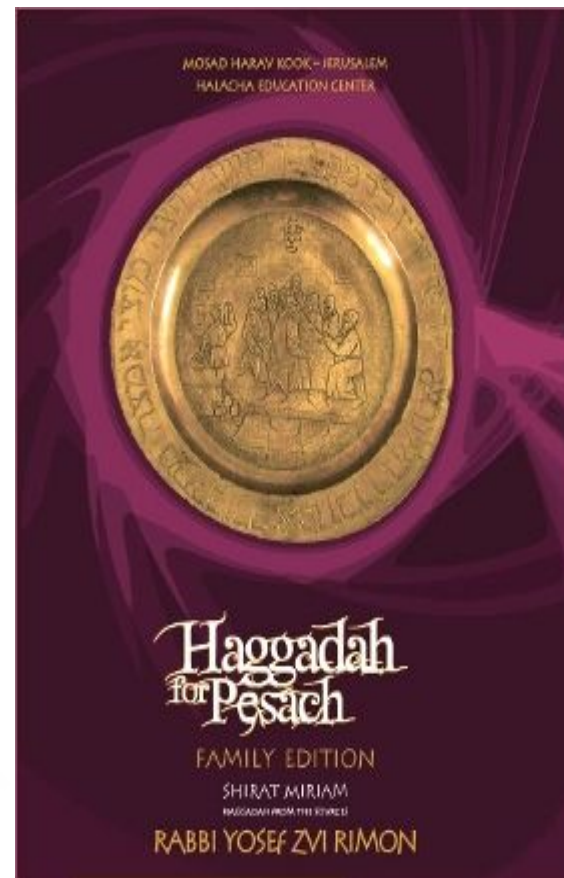
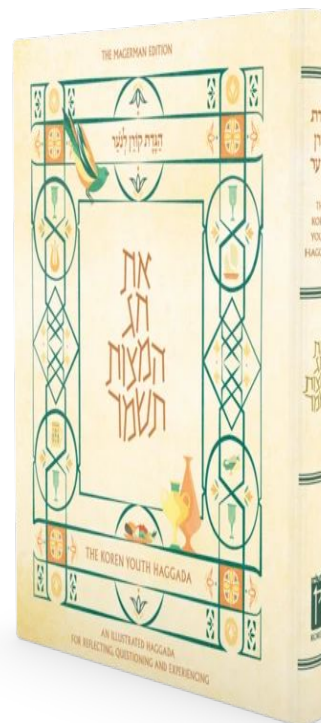
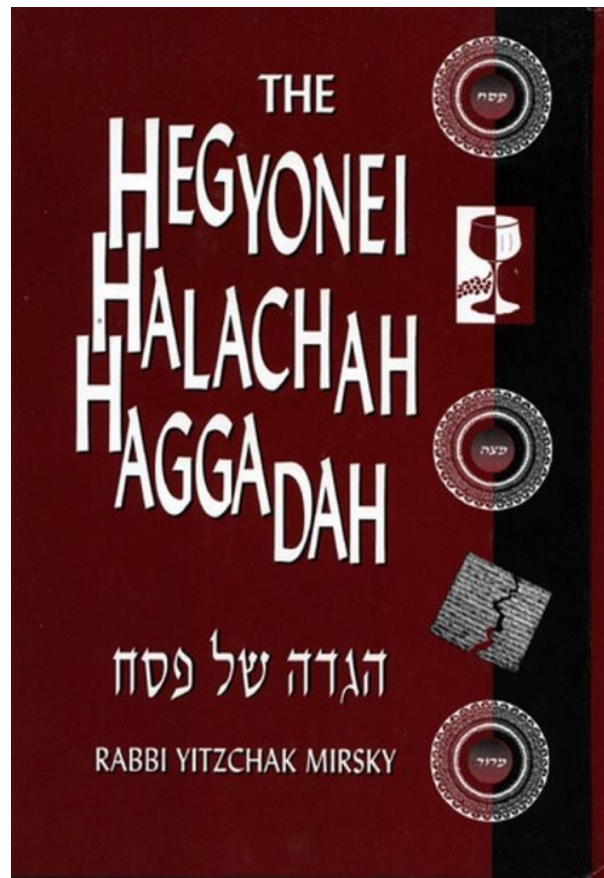
Escape room!

Picture cards / objects and connect them to the Pesach story

THE
(unofficial)
HOGWARTS
HAGGADAH

MOSHE ROSENBERG





Empathy education for 5780

Story of Hashem silencing the angels from singing – what does this teach us?

The makkot and numbers: what do we count, what seems to multiply, and why?

Emotions in this story: for whom do we feel bad? Pharaoh, his magicians, Moshe, Aaron, Miriam, Yocheved...

Pro Tip: This year, send your questions to grandparents in advance, and send them to your kids in advance and share the answers for grandma and grandpa to enjoy at their seder; you can also send grandparents packets of notes, drawings, etc for them to print and look at during the Seder

Chag Kasher ve-Sameach!

A happy and a healthy Pesach!

Great Online Resources

- <https://www.aish.com/h/pes/>
- <https://www.chabad.org/>
- <https://www.myjewishlearning.com/>
- <https://staff.ncsy.org/education/education/material/KnmorURTIr/passover-seder-cheat-sheet/>
- https://www.sefaria.org/Pesach_Haggadah?lang=bi
- <https://www.worldbneiakiva.org/room-main>