

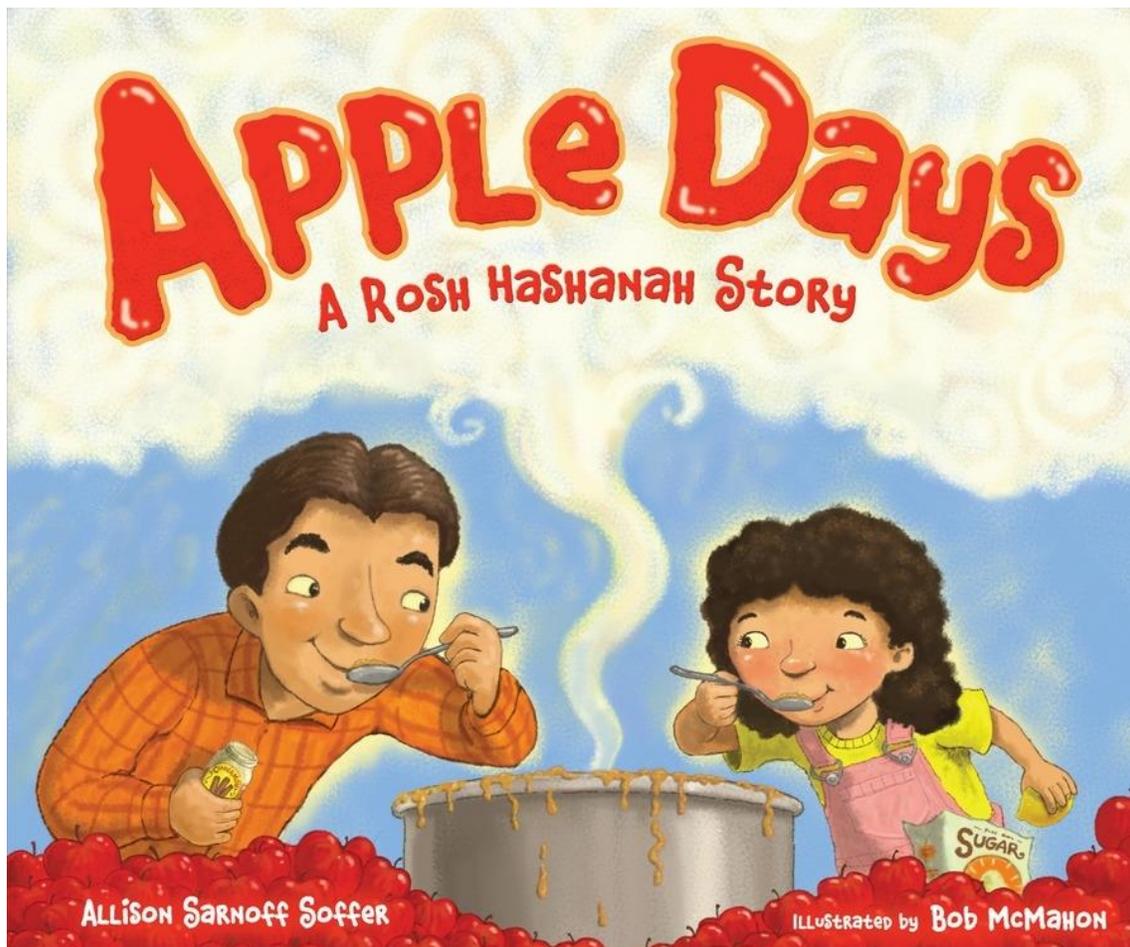
KAR-BEN

PUBLISHING

A division of Lerner Publishing Group

Activity Guide for Young Readers

A Resource for Parents and Teachers



© KAR-BEN Publishing, a division of Lerner Publishing Group
This guide may be downloaded for free at www.karben.com.
This guide may be used expressly for educational
purposes only, and cannot be sold.
Please send questions or inquiries to publicity@karben.com.
241 1st Avenue North, Minneapolis, MN 55401

HC: 978-1-4677-1203-3
PB: 978-1-4677-1204-0

Ages 2-7 | Grades PreK-2
To purchase the book, call 1-800-4KARBEN
or visit www.karben.com.

How to Use This Activity Guide

The holidays can be a wonderful time for kids. Family traditions and activities both at home and at school create a sense of excitement and anticipation, just as they do for Katy in *Apple Days*. This activity guide features questions for before, during, and after reading *Apple Days*, as well as activities tied to both the book and Rosh Hashanah traditions. Whether they're used at home or in the classroom, these activities will help students understand holiday traditions and connect their own experiences and emotions to Katy's.

About the Book

Katy's favorite holiday is Rosh Hashanah. It's the time of year when she gets to pick apples and make applesauce with her mother. But what happens when the family tradition is interrupted by the arrival of her new baby cousin? A situation to which every child and family can relate, this is a story about what happens when a child realizes that family priorities must sometimes change. Luckily for Katy, her friends and her community are there to help her in this charming story about a beloved fall custom. Applesauce recipe included!



About the Author

Allison Sarnoff Soffer grew up in the New York area where she studied ballet at American Ballet Theatre. She attended Princeton and Columbia Universities and earned a Master's Degree in Journalism from Northwestern University. She lives in Chevy Chase, Maryland, with her husband and two children. *Apple Days* is her first book.

About the Illustrator

Bob McMahon can never remember a time when he didn't draw, even when his teachers wanted him to stop. He received his degree in art from Cal State Northridge and has worked as a political cartoonist, advertising artist, and children's book illustrator. He works digitally from sketch to final color artwork. Bob was also a movie extra in *MacArthur* with Gregory Peck. He is the illustrator of many children's books.

About Rosh Hashanah

New beginnings and sweetness are associated with Rosh Hashanah. Rosh Hashanah customs include eating apples and honey symbolizing a sweet new year, and wishing each other "shanah tovah," a good new year. In the synagogue, prayers are recited from a special High Holiday prayer book, and the shofar (ram's horn) is sounded.

Questions:

For before reading:

1. Why do we celebrate Rosh Hashanah?
2. Does your family have any Rosh Hashanah traditions? What is your favorite way to celebrate Rosh Hashanah?
3. What are you most looking forward to this Rosh Hashanah?

For reading together:

1. How does Katy feel about Rosh Hashanah? How do you know?
2. What is special about this Rosh Hashanah?
3. What ingredients are in the applesauce that Katy and her mother make?
4. How does Katy feel when she can't go apple picking? Why?
5. Why does Katy save a jar of applesauce for Will?

For post-reading discussion:

1. Why is making applesauce for Rosh Hashanah so important to Katy?
2. Why did Katy's friends and neighbors give her apples?
3. Have you ever helped a friend who was upset? Has someone helped you when you were upset? How did it make you feel?

Activities:

The Parts of an Apple

Cut one apple in half width-wise and another in half length-wise so that children can see the different parts of the apple. Have them draw the apple, both the outside and the inside, and label and color the different parts. You can also use apples cut this way to create a fun and simple art project. The apple makes an excellent stamp when dipped into a plate with a small amount of paint on it. Apples cut width-wise will create a small, star-like pattern at the center of the stamp.

My Very Own Recipe

Guide children through writing a recipe for their favorite snack. Encourage them to choose something simple, like apples and honey, that they know how to make. Remind them to include a list of ingredients at the beginning of their recipe, and to number each step. If children are stuck, you can prompt them by asking questions such as "what comes first?" and "what happens next?"

Sharing Our Stories

Have children choose a special holiday tradition and share the story with a friend. Traditions can be unique to them, or can be common traditions like lighting the menorah on Hanukkah. Have each pair come up with a short plan for acting out the tradition. For an extra challenge, encourage them to act it out silently and have their audience guess what the tradition is.

Related Reads:

Check out these books for more great Rosh Hashanah reading! Find these and more at www.karben.com!

- What a Way to Start a New Year!
- Engineer Ari and the Rosh Hashanah Ride
- I'm Sorry Grover: A Rosh Hashanah Tale
- Tashlich at Turtle Rock
-

KAR-BEN
PUBLISHING

A division of Lerner Publishing Group

www.karben.com