

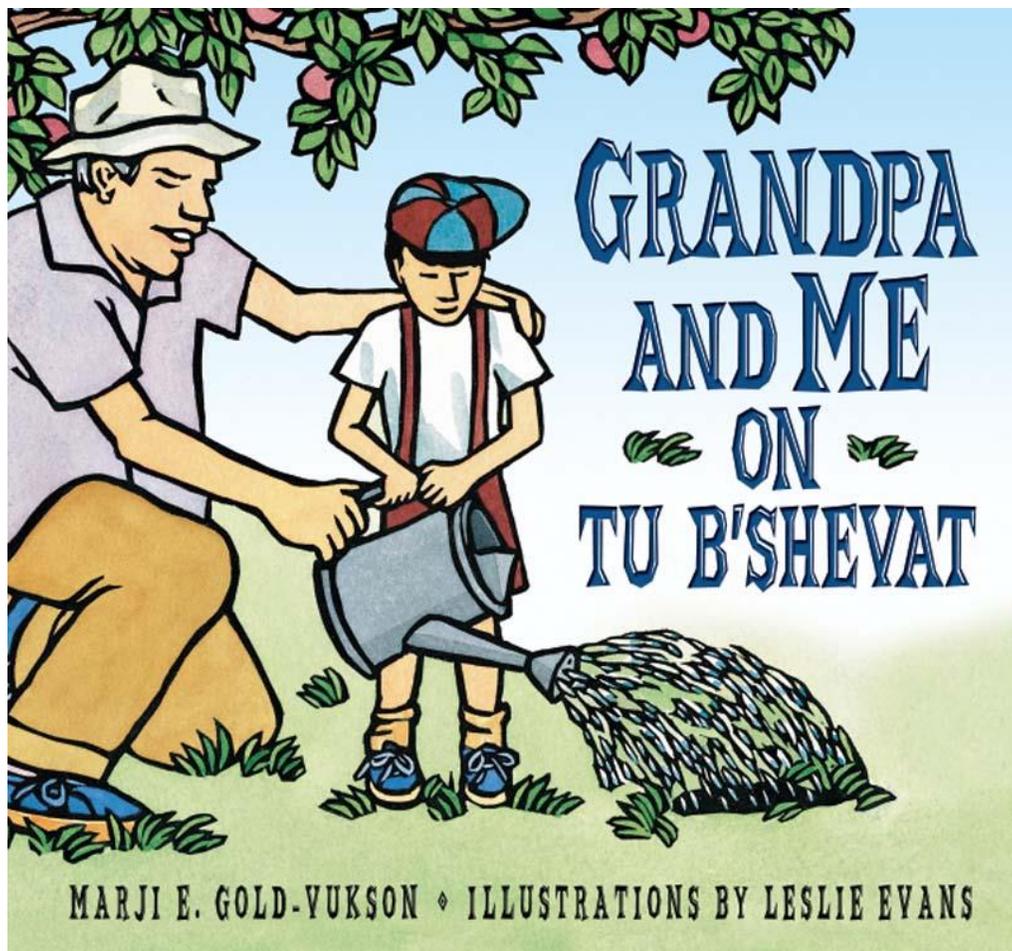
KAR-BEN

PUBLISHING

A division of Lerner Publishing Group

Lesson Plan (K-1)

A Resource for 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

Lesson Plan by Melissa Moss
Jewish Literacy Project Coordinator, JCCSF
PB: 978-1-58013-122-3

Ages 3-8 | Grades PreK-3
To purchase the book, call 1-800-4KARBEN
or visit www.karben.com.

Overview

The tradition of planting on Tu B'Shevat, the Jewish New Year for Trees, is handed down from generation to generation . . . a little boy and his grandpa plant a seed. Like the tiny seed, this rhyming tale grows and blossoms into a celebration of nature and family.

About the Author

Marji E. Gold-Vukson (*The Shapes of My Jewish Year, The Sounds of My Jewish Year, Can You Imagine*) is a former elementary public and religious school teacher. She is the author of several books for Kar-Ben, often collaborating with her husband, Micheal. She lives in W. Lafayette, IN and has five kids.

About the Illustrator

Leslie Evans has a BFA in printmaking from the Rhode Island School of Design. She has worked as a designer and freelance illustrator for years. In addition to her art, Leslie enjoys printing books and broadsides at her letterpress studio in Massachusetts. She lives in Watertown, MA.

About Tu B'Shevat

Tu B'Shevat, the 15th day of the month of Shevat, is the Jewish Arbor Day, a new year for trees. While Shevat often comes in January or February, when it is winter in much of the world, in Israel the almond trees are beginning to bloom, announcing the start of spring, and children gather with shovels to plant new saplings.

Objectives

Reading Comprehension 2.3 – Connect to life experiences the information and events in texts.

Literary Response and Analysis 3.3 – Identify characters, settings, and important events.

Lesson Plan

Preparation: You will need a copy of the book, white paper for drawing, rhyming words for tree poem (on the back of this page), whiteboard markers, and crayons.

Activity Steps:

1. Show the students the front of the book. Read the first page 'About Tu B'Shevat' and when you talk about the foods that we eat on the holiday, have students raise their hands if they've ever eaten an orange, fig, date, etc.
2. When the little boy talks about planting the seed, ask the students if they have ever planted a seed.
3. Finish the book. Tell students they are going to write a poem. Ask if they know what a poem is. Explain that a poem talks about ideas using rhyming words. Write the words that rhyme with tree on the white board and if you have time students can also call out words. Poems should only be one sentence long, but if the students want to write more they can. The poems should be at the bottom of the white paper.
4. The word "tree" should be used in each poem. Example: I feel happy when I see a tree! Help students with their poems as needed.
5. When students are done writing their poem sentence, have them draw a tree on top of it.

RHYMING WORDS FOR TREE POEMS **WORDS THAT RHYME WITH TREE:**

Me	Glee	Squeeze
We	Sea	Sneeze
See	Three	
Knee	Key	
Happy	Leaves	
Free	Breeze	
Bee	Please	