

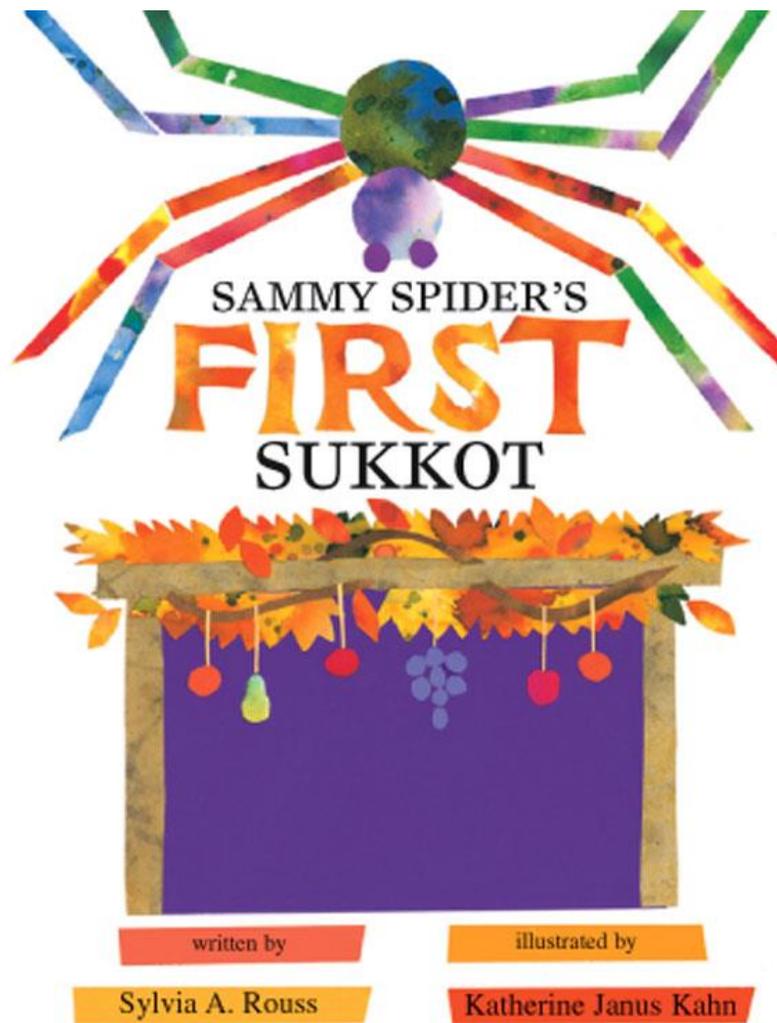
# KAR-BEN

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## Lesson Plan (K-1)

A Resource for Teachers



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Ages 3-8 | Grades PreK-3  
To purchase the book, call 1-800-4KARBEN  
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## Overview

Sammy the Spider wants to join in the Shapiro family's Sukkot celebrations. When Sammy and his mother are locked out of the house, they end up sleeping in the sukkah under the stars. This book focuses on directional prepositions (inside, outside, etc.) as well.

## About the Author

Sylvia A. Rouss is an award-winning author and early childhood educator, the creator of the popular *Sammy Spider* series which celebrated its 20th anniversary in 2013 with over 100,000 Sammy Spider books sold. She lives in Tarzana, California.

## About the Illustrator

Katherine Janus Kahn, an illustrator, calligrapher, and sculptor, studied Fine Arts at the Bezalel School in Jerusalem and at the University of Iowa. She has illustrated many children's books including Kar-Ben's popular *Sammy Spider* series, *Ziz* series, a set of Family Services for Shabbat and the holidays, and many other award-winning story, activity and board books for young children. She lives in Wheaton, Maryland.

## About Sukkot

Sukkot is a fall harvest holiday when the Jewish people recall the biblical days of wandering in the desert, dwelling in huts, after the Exodus from Egypt. Some Jewish families build sukkot (the Hebrew plural for sukkah), temporary booths which are decorated with branches, fruit and other decorations. It is traditional to eat meals and entertain guests in the sukkah during the holiday.

## Standards & Objectives

**Word Analysis & Vocabulary Development 1.17** – Identify and sort common words in basic categories (e.g. colors, shapes, food).

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

# Lesson Plan

Preparation: For this lesson, you will need a copy of the book.

## Activity Steps:

1. Gather your students in a circle. Explain that it is story time. Go over agreements.
2. Show them the book. Explain that Sukkot is a Jewish holiday that celebrates all the food we get from the earth. Give examples (fruits, vegetables).
3. Tell your students that there are lots of direction words in the book, and that you want them to quietly point to the direction when they hear it during the story. For example, show them the first page that says “a book of directions” and have them point up when you say up and down when you say down (the same signal for below and above). Show them inside (finger points to a place in the room), outside (finger points outside the door). The final direction in the book is “everywhere” and you can have the students point in a circle.
4. Read the story, making sure to pause and make eye contact with the students after you say one of the direction words. As the Shapiro’s are building their sukkah, explain that a sukkah is like a tent, where Jewish people eat during the week of Sukkot to celebrate nature and being outdoors. Tell them it is often decorated with fruits and vegetables and other natural decorations, like leaves and branches.
5. At the end of the lesson, explain that a main character is the person, animal, insect, etc. we hear the most from or about in a story. Ask who the main character of this book was. Tell students the setting is where the story takes place. Ask what the setting of the story was. During this week’s art classes, students will create a mini-sukkah with a spider.

## **EXTENSION ACTIVITIES FOR SAMMY SPIDER’S FIRST SUKKOT**

### SENSORY DEVELOPMENT:

1. Watch “Noam’s Sukkot” (from Shalom Sesame) <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0Z5rGZc2w3Y>  
You can also watch kids talk about Sukkot <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7FzUIBuKCPi>
2. Prepare construction paper in many colors. Provide scissors and glue. Have students make their own paper fruit to hang around the classroom during sukkot. Create examples beforehand.
3. Get a lulav and etrog and let students shake and explore!

### WRITING ACTIVITIES:

1. Students can create a welcome sign for your classroom, just like the welcome sign in the story.
2. Prepare sheets of paper with the letter “S” written large. Have students work in pairs or groups of three to write as many “S” words from the story as they can (Sukkot, Sukkah, Sammy, Spider, Sun, Stars, Squirrel, Spin, Slats, Sky, String, etc.) You can also support students by writing these words on the board and have them copy them in their group on the “S” paper.

### COOKING:

1. Pumpkin Cookies: <http://www.kveller.com/activities/food/chewy-pumpkin-chocolate-chip-cookies.shtml>
2. Apple Crisp: [http://www.kveller.com/activities/food/Cooking\\_With\\_Kids/Apple\\_Crisp.shtml](http://www.kveller.com/activities/food/Cooking_With_Kids/Apple_Crisp.shtml)

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