

ON THE Shelf

Being 6 years old with PJ Library

The most common questions about PJ Library we get are: *Where is PJ Library? Can we visit?*

You can visit because the library is in your home! PJ Library is sending your children a library of Jewish books of their own, one each month throughout their childhood. Here is a glimpse of that library for a 6-year-old in the US, Canada, Australia, and New Zealand. By the time kids are 6, they can handle books with more text on the page, subtler illustrations, and weightier themes – all of which translate into more sophisticated PJ Library selections.

While this library belongs to one child, one of the extraordinary things about PJ Library is the shared experience of having the same library as other kids around the world who are the same age.

When we read [*Mitzvah Pizza*], we told our kids we were actually going to Philadelphia on an upcoming trip. My son, Daniel, immediately asked if he could take some of his share money and buy sticky notes for people to try pizza. Fast forward to today and here we are. It was so awesome watching him come and do his mitzvah.

Thank you to PJ Library for reinforcing the values we are trying to teach at home.

- JESSICA, PJ LIBRARY PARENT IN ATLANTA



JAN
2019



Bitter and Sweet

Written by Sandra V. Feder
Illustrated by Kyrsten Brooker

Moving away from old friends is bitter, but making new ones is sweet. A lot of life is like that, as the character in this story discovers. It turns out that a balance of flavors is the key – and the earlier we learn that lesson, the happier we are.

MAY
2019



The Sages of Chelm and the Moon

Written by Shlomo Abas
Illustrated by Omer Hoffmann

Some Chelm stories aren't quite as relatable to today's audiences as others. This one holds up very well, which is why it was also selected by our sister program in Israel, Sifriyat Pijama.

SEP
2019



The Mouse Who Danced the Hora

Written by Pamela Mayer
Illustrated by Christine Davenier

Put out by our very own imprint, PJ Publishing, this book centers on a joyful mitzvah – entertaining a bride and groom. Even rodent-phobes will find themselves rooting for Tillie Mouscovitz.

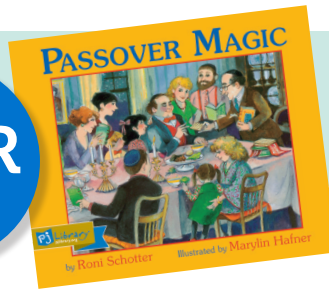


FEB
2019

Mitzvah Pizza

Written by Sarah Lynn Scheerger
Illustrated by Deborah Melmon

This book is based on the real-life Rosa's Fresh Pizza, owned and run by Mason Wartman in Philadelphia. "The focus on tzedakah and giving back to others" was reflected in his restaurant, said Wartman, whose pizzeria fed countless homeless customers before closing last spring.

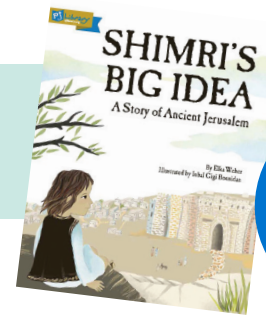


MAR
2019

Passover Magic

Written by Roni Schotter
Illustrated by Marilyn Hafner

What's magical about Passover? The same thing that's magical about so many Jewish holidays: family togetherness. But there's a little sparkle of extra magic in this story too.



APR
2019

Shimri's Big Idea

Written by Elka Weber
Illustrated by Inbal Gigi Bousidan

This story proves that even small people can make a big impact. It also might get families interested in Hezekiah's Tunnel, just one of so many amazing sites to see in Israel.



JUN
2019

A Hen for Izzy Pippik

Written by Aubrey Davis
Illustrated by Marie Lafrance

If this story feels familiar, it's because it's a spin on a really, really old one – the Talmudic tale of Rabbi Chanina ben Dosa and the chicken that eventually morphed into a herd of goats!



JUL
2019

Mr. Tempkin Climbs a Tree

Written by Cary Fagan
Illustrated by Carles Arbat

Cary Fagan has written multiple PJ Library selections, including *The Market Wedding*, *Ten Old Men and a Mouse*, *Oy, Feh, So?*, and *My New Shirt*. We're excited to share his latest with PJ Library families.



AUG
2019

What a Way to Start a New Year

Written by Jacqueline Jules
Illustrated by Judy Stead

Some days don't go the way we hope they will, even special days like Rosh Hashanah. This story will resonate with kids who are still learning the twin arts of resilience and gratitude.



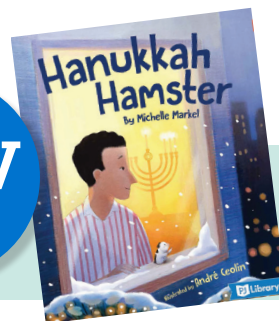
OCT
2019

Things Should Match

Written by Sheldon Oberman
Illustrated by Paul Meisel

When the Book Selection Committee first read this story, it was part of a larger collection of stories by the late, great Sheldon Oberman. We loved it so much, we arranged to have it illustrated as a stand-alone picture book for PJ Library families.

NOV
2019



Hanukkah Hamster

Written by Michelle Markel
Illustrated by André Ceolin

Here's a Hanukkah story, an immigrant story, and an Israel story that also happens to focus on the solidly Jewish values of returning lost objects, caring for animals, and welcoming the stranger. That's some heavy lifting for one delightful book!



DEC
2019

A special surprise was sent to PJ Library and PJ Our Way subscribers in December: aprons! We hope these aprons inspire families to try new Jewish recipes, get messy with crafts, and make lifelong memories.