

A Note from PJ Goes to School

Your child's exploration of Jewish values through PJ Library books



Featured book and Jewish values

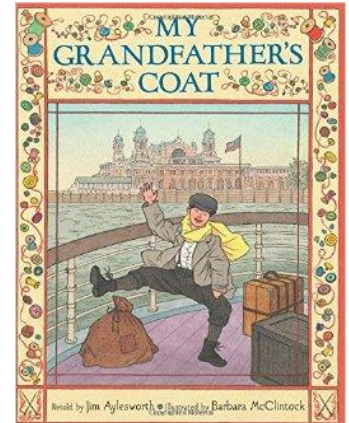
My Grandfather's Coat

by Jim Ayelsworth

Illustrated by Barbara McClintock

Published by Scholastic Press

A young man travels by boat to America, where he becomes an industrious tailor. The young tailor makes himself a handsome coat for his wedding. As the tailor ages, and becomes a father, grandfather, and great grandfather, he continually refashions the fraying coat. As the coat changes from a vest, to a tie, to a toy for a baby, we witness many poignant moments in the tailor's life.



Values

From generation to generation - *Le-dor va-dor* - לדור ודור - the passing of traditions, values, objects, songs, and stories from one generation to the next

Preventing waste - *Bal tash-chit* - בל תשחית - preserving the world's resources through recycling and caring for the environment

What to talk about at home

- Why did the grandfather keep making the tattered coat into something else? Why didn't he just throw the coat away?
- Which of our family's possessions or traditions would you like to pass down to your children and your children's children? Why?



To learn more about PJ Library, and to subscribe and receive books, go to www.pjlibrary.org

What else you can do

- Search the house for an item of clothing that originally belonged to someone else. Try to discover how the item first came to your house and whether it carries any interesting history.
- Choose a room in your house. Set a timer for five minutes and see how many items you can gather that can be recycled, repurposed, or donated to others.

More PJ library books about journeying to a new country, protecting the environment, and passing traditions from generation to generation

[The Always Prayer Shawl](#) by Sheldon Oberman

[The Blessing Cup](#) by Patricia Polacco

[Just a Dream](#) by Chris Van Allsburg

[Solomon and the Trees](#) by Matt Biers Ariel