

# Resource Guide

## Yitzi, the Trusty Tractor

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We understand that how we gather looks different these days. Whether you are coming together in person or online, PJ Library will continue to provide content to connect with your community. Inside you'll find ways to:



- **Use Jewish text in everyday occurrences**
- **Make meaningful connections to families through Jewish values**
- **Enrich learning experiences for all ages**



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## Yitzi, the Trusty Tractor

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Yitzi is Farmer Sarah's trusty tractor. He's a little bit rusty and a little bit musty, but together they always get the job done -- and then they both power down on Shabbat. But one day, Farmer Sarah has to sell Yitzi to her neighbor, Farmer Ruthie. What will happen when Yitzi powers down for Shabbat?

### Take a Break

In this wonderful book, even the farm equipment needs a rest. Lucky for us, the Jewish observance of Shabbat works in a weekly opportunity to take a step back from our hectic lives and be thankful for all that we have. When coming together with your community to celebrate Shabbat, in person or online, offer the chance for folks to let you know what they're looking forward to about Shabbat. People can write into the Zoom chat, share their answers out loud, or write it on a post-it note to share with your community.

### Get Outside

Sarah, Yitzi and Ruthie spend much of their days outside- farming, selling their produce and enjoying the natural wonders around their farms. As COVID restrictions are lifting and people are able to gather together outdoors, plan a time to visit a local farm together to pick whatever is in season. You could follow up the farm visit with a cooking or baking class online featuring the ingredients you were able to pick at the farm. Be in touch with a local food bank or Community Fridge to see if they would welcome your produce or baked goods as donations.

### Better Together

Sarah and Yitzi are a great team and we know that we can get more accomplished and have more meaningful experiences when we work together. Have children in class come to discover that for themselves by having them complete tasks solo and then with a partner. Then talk through what was easier with help and if there were any challenges along the way. Then read this book together and have everyone take notice of the places where team work won the day.

### Share and Share Alike

By the end of this book Ruthie and Sarah come to the conclusion that sharing Yitzi is the best option for everyone, and they both benefit from this arrangement. Are there ways that your organization can help to facilitate other ways to share appliances, toys and other equipment in your community? You could organize a puzzle swap, have folks list tools that they're able to share with neighbors and even consider (post pandemic) pairing people up who could carpool together. All of that would help to lighten the load.

### For everything you need about Shabbat:

[www.pjlibrary.org/shabbat](http://www.pjlibrary.org/shabbat)

### For our Podcast episode featuring Yitzi:

[www.pjlibrary.org/podcast/yitzi-trusty-tractor](http://www.pjlibrary.org/podcast/yitzi-trusty-tractor)