



SHAVUOT RESOURCES

in the Joseph and Mae Gray Cultural & Learning Center

IN THE PINSOFF CHILDREN'S READING ROOM:

***Shuli and Me: From Slavery to Freedom* by Joan Benjamin-Farren (E240.7)**

Includes the text for counting the Omer in Hebrew and English along with a young girl's narration of what happens to the Children of Israel from their first Passover until the giving of the Torah at Mt. Sinai.

***The Eleventh Commandment* by the Children of America (E240.7)**

If there were an 11th Commandment, what would it be? Children of many religious denominations answer this question in their own drawings and words.

***Who Knows Ten?* by Molly Cone; illustrated by Uri Shulevitz (J220)**

Presents each of the Ten Commandments with stories illustrating their meanings.

***A Mountain of Blintzes* by Barbara Diamond Goldin; illustrated by Anik McGrory (E240.7)**

A family works together to gather the necessary ingredients to make blintzes for Shavuot.

NEW! *Sadie and the Big Mountain* by Jamie Korngold; illustrated by Julie Fortenberry (E240.7)

When her synagogue's nursery school plans a hike to celebrate Shavuot, Sadie is not sure she will be able to climb a huge mountain like Moses.

***Ruth and Naomi: A Bible Story* by Jean Marzollo (E220)**

A Bible story of hope, family loyalty, and courage follows widowed Ruth, as she, along with her mother-in-law Naomi, journeys to a new city where she gets a second chance at love and happiness with a farmer named Boaz.

***The Ten Commandments for Jewish Children* by Miriam Nerlove (E240.7)**

Describes how Moses received the Ten Commandments, what they contain, and how they should be obeyed.

***When the World Was Quiet* by Phyllis Nutkis; illustrated by Patti Argoff (E240.7)**

A simple illustration of the Midrash that explains that prior to the giving of the Torah, not even the smallest sound was heard.

NEW! *Cheesecake for Shavuot* by Allison Ofanansky; illustrated by Eliyahu Alpern (E240.7)

Students in Israel plant wheat in the fall, watch it grow during the winter, and harvest it in the spring, threshing, winnowing, and grinding it until they have flour which, with cheese from petting zoo goats and strawberries they have grown, will make their Shavuot dessert.

***The Littlest Mountain* by Barb Rosenstock; illustrated by Melanie Hall (E240.7)**

Discusses how Mount Sinai was chosen as the site for the giving of the Ten Commandments.

***No Rules for Michael* by Sylvia A. Rouss; illustrated by Susan Simon (E240.7)**

While studying the Ten Commandments Michael says he would rather there were no rules, but when his teacher gives him a day without rules, Michael learns an important lesson.

***Sammy Spider's First Shavuot* by Sylvia A. Rouss; illustrated by Katherine Janus Kahn (E240.7)**

Sammy Spider lowers himself down on a strand of webbing to get a closer look at the Shapiro family's preparations for Shavuot.

***The Day the Rabbi Disappeared* by Howard Schwartz; illustrated by Monique Passicot (J240)**

Retellings of twelve traditional tales from Jewish folklore featuring elements of magic and relating to holidays, including "A Gift for Jerusalem," a Shavuot tale.

***The Glass Menorah and Other Stories for Jewish Holidays* by Maida Silverman; illustrated by Marge Levine (J240)**

Eight stories, describing the way the Berg family celebrates various Jewish holidays, including a story for Shavuot.

IN THE MAXWELL ABBELL LIBRARY:

NEW! *Your Guide to the Jewish Holidays: From Shofar to Seder* by Matt Axelrod (240)

Intended for readers with no prior knowledge as well as those who know the basics, Axelrod takes a humorous, light-hearted look at the eleven most important Jewish holidays including Shavuot.

***The JPS Bible Commentary: Ruth* by Dr. Tamara Cohn Eskenazi (224)**

The latest in the JPS Bible Commentary series, the authors provide a critical, line-by-line commentary of the biblical text, presented in its original Hebrew, complete with vocalization and cantillation marks, as well as an English translation.

***The Shavuot Anthology* by Philip Goodman (240.7)**

Learn the songs, poems, stories and readings that are part of the celebration of the Feast of Weeks. Includes selections both for children and adults.

***Ten Commandments: A Blueprint for the Redemptive Society* by David Hazony (172)**

Examines the Ten Commandments' biblical context and the ancient Jewish traditions of interpreting them, and explains how these rules for living can be successfully applied to the modern-day world.

***Reading Ruth: Contemporary Women Reclaim a Sacred Story* edited by Judith A. Kates and Gail Twersky Reimer (305)**

A collection of extraordinary essays by an eclectic group of modern women examines and illuminates the book of the Bible most relevant to women.

NEW! *Omer: A Counting* by Rabbi Karyn D. Kedar (240.7)

Beautiful and evocative readings for each day, matched with the daily Omer blessing, offer a transformative path from Passover to Shavuot. Also included is an informative historical introduction.

***Broken Tablets: Restoring the Ten Commandments and Ourselves* edited by Rachel Mikva (201)**

Twelve Jewish spiritual leaders share their thoughts on the continuing importance of the Ten Commandments.

***Ruth: A Modern Commentary* by Leonard S. Kravitz and Kerry M. Olitzky (224)**

Incorporate interpretations from the Targum, Rashi, and Ibn Ezra, along with scholarly and contemporary sources to create an engaging and accessible modern commentary on this ancient text.

***Righteous Gentiles in the Hebrew Bible: Ancient Role Models for Sacred Relationships* by Jeffrey Salkin (220)**

Provides an informative and inspiring look at the sympathetic non-Israelite characters of the Hebrew Bible and the redemptive relationships they had with the Jewish people. Includes a chapter on Ruth.

***Naomi's Song* by Selma Silverberg (TF)**

A fictional account of the biblical story of Naomi. A 2010 Sydney Taylor Honor Book for Teen Readers.

***Celebrating the Jewish Year: The Spring and Summer Holidays* by Paul Steinberg (240)**

Bursting with primary sources, poems, prayers, rituals, and stories, this guide will help you create a holiday experience rich in meaning and spirit.

***The Murmuring Deep: Reflections on the Biblical Unconscious* by Avivah Gottlieb Zornberg (220.1)**

Attempts to give a new understanding of the desires and motivations of the men and women whose stories form the basis of the Bible. Includes a chapter on the Book of Ruth.

RECIPES & MORE:

Browse the 240's and 741's for blintz recipes and other Shavuot treats, and helpful information about the customs, traditions, and observances of the holiday.

DVDs:

Shalom Sesame: Countdown to Shavuot

It's Shavuot and Avigail and Brosh want to stay up all night just like the grown-ups. Will they be able to do it? They will certainly try with a little help from a dancing cow!

The Story of Ruth

The 1960 dramatization of the story of Ruth re-released on DVD. See also *The Ten Commandments* (1956).

The Ten Commandments

This two-hour History Channel special examines the three different biblical accounts of Moses on the Mountain, and then looks at each of the Ten Commandments in its historical context.

Contact Rachel Kamin at 847/432-8900 x242 or rkamin@nssbethel.org for more information on these and other available resources.