



# SHAVUOT RESOURCES

in the Joseph and Mae Gray Cultural & Learning Center

## IN THE PINSOFF CHILDREN'S READING ROOM:

### ***Shuli and Me* 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.

### ***Who Knows Ten?* by Molly Cone (J220)**

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

### ***Chelm for the Holidays* by Valerie Estelle Frankel (J240)**

Presents ten holiday stories set in the tiny Jewish village of Chelm including "Elijah Brings the Blintzes: A Shavuot Story." See *Kopecks for Blintzes* by Judy Goldman for another Shavuot story set in Chelm.

### ***A Mountain of Blintzes* by Barbara Diamond Goldin (E240.7)**

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

### ***Sadie and the Big Mountain* by Jamie Korngold (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.

### ***Yossi and the Monkeys* by Jennifer MacLeod (E240.7)**

An escaped circus monkey with a talent for juggling helps Yossi sell the kippahs and vests his wife makes and to earn enough money to celebrate Shavuot with his family.

### ***The Art Lesson* by Allison & Wayne Marks (E240.7)**

Hannah loves her Thursday art lessons with her Grandma who teaches her how to make paper cut-outs for Shavuot.

### ***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.

### ***What are the Ten Commandments?***

**by Yona Zeldis McDonough (J240.7)**

Not just about Moses, this book looks back at the time when the commandments were written, how the belief in one all-powerful God set the Israelites apart from other ancient peoples, and the roles the Ten Commandments have played in Judaism, Christianity, and Islam.

### ***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. See also *Have you Heard? A Child's Introduction to the Ten Commandments* by Jeffrey Glickman and *Ten Good Rules* by Susan Remick Topek.

### ***When the World Was Quiet* by Phyllis Nutkis (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.

### ***Cheesecake for Shavuot* by Allison Ofanansky (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 (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 (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 (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. See also *A Holiday for Ari Ant*.

***The Day the Rabbi Disappeared*  
by Howard Schwartz (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.

***Meet Me at the Well: The Girls and Women of the Bible* by Jane Yolen and Barbara Diamond Goldin (J220.9)**

Retells Bible stories from the point of view of twelve women including Ruth and Naomi.

***Beni's Tiny Tales* by Jane Breskin Zalben (J240)**

From Rosh Hashanah through Shavout, Beni and his family celebrate Jewish holidays through the year.

**IN THE MAXWELL ABBELL LIBRARY:**

***Your Guide to the Jewish Holidays* 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)**

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. See also *Ruth: A Modern Commentary* by Leonard S. Kravitz and Kerry M. Olitzky

***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: Birth, Redemption, and the Way of Israel* by Leon Kass & Hannah Mandelbaum (224)**

Through a close reading of the Book of Ruth, grandfather and granddaughter transform how we see the story and how we see ourselves.

***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.

***Omer: A Counting* by 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.

***My Jewish Year* by Abigail Pogrebin (240)**

Pogrebin embarked on an entire year of intensive research, observation, and writing about the milestones on the Jewish calendar. The result is a new appreciation of the arc of Jewish observance through the eyes of a relatable, wandering-- and wondering-- Jew.

***Broken Tablets* edited by Rachel Mikva (201)**

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

***Ceremony & Celebration* by Jonathan Sacks (240)**

Which does Shavuot really celebrate – the law or the land? Rabbi Sacks reveals the stunning interplay of biblical laws, rabbinic edicts, liturgical themes, communal rituals and profound religious meaning of Shavuot along with Rosh Hashanah, Yom Kippur, Sukkot, and Pesach.

***Righteous Gentiles in the Hebrew Bible*  
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* 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.