



## Activities for Tu B'Shevat Family Fun Event

**AGES:** Families -all ages

**GOAL:** To incorporate fun Tu B'Shevat activities into a family fun event.

**MATERIALS:** See listed below.

**LENGTH OF TIME NEEDED TO CONDUCT THE PROGRAM:** One hour

**INSTRUCTIONS:** Please see below.

### **PLANTING GRASS SEED STATION - 2 teachers needed**

We plant grass seeds in a clear plastic cup. The children do the planting - add the soil - sprinkle the seeds - water the seeds - Then the children make their own tree on a 1/4 piece of white construction paper (at circle after discussing Tu B'Shevat the children learn how to make a simple tree) The tree is then stapled on to a craft stick and inserted into soil. When the grass begins to grow it looks like it's growing around the tree. The child really love this!

### **PLANTING LIMA BEAN STATION - 2 teachers needed**

Plant lima bean seeds (pre-soaked) in plastic cups. Soil needed.

### **MAKE A BIRD FEEDER STATION - 2 teachers needed**

We make a bird feeder by spreading peanut butter on half of a sliced toasted bagel, and then rolling or pressing it into bird seed. We choose a tree and attach the bird feeders to that tree by hanging it by a string.

### **ART ACTIVITY - 2 teachers needed**

Have a border of a tree cut out of construction paper. The middle part of the tree is missing.

Back the paper with contact paper. Decorate the middle part (the tree) which is sticky, with tissue paper squares. Looks like stained glass.

### **ART ACTIVITY - 2 teachers needed**

Have a "branch" outline of a tree on white typing paper. Back with colored construction paper. The children can either use dot art makers to stamp leaves / blossoms... or they can do a 3 dimensional tree by gluing shapes onto the tree branches.



**PLAY DOH STATION - 2 teachers needed** • Play Doh station -- cookie cutters of trees, flowers, etc.

### **FOOD STATION - 2 teachers needed**

Food Station - We have tree snacks for tasting, particularly fruits you would find in Israel, dates, olives, oranges, figs, etc.

*continued...*





STORY TIME / READING CENTER - 1 teacher needed

Books To Read:

- *Sammy Spider's First Tu B'Shevat* - Sylvia Rouss
- *Grandpa and Me on Tu B'Shevat* - Marji Gold - Vukson
- *The Giving Tree* - Shel Silverstein
- *It's Tu B'shevat* - Edie Stoltz Zolkower

SUBMITTED BY: Bonnie Suchart, Beth Yeshurun Family Life Coordinator

**ABOUT OUR SCHOOL:** *Beth Yeshurun is the largest Conservative Jewish synagogue in North America.*

*As part of the Beth Yeshurun Family Life Committee, we host two Preschool Judaica Family Fun Nights a year, with a different theme each time. This past year, we did Tu B'Shevat as one of our themes. We had about 20 - 25 families attend. The older siblings are invited and welcome to join us. We have teachers that come and volunteer their time, working at a station that has been prepared in advance for them. This promotes Judaica into the family, by inviting them to do a fun activity together. They can rotate to different stations. We ask the families to bring an item to donate as a Mitzvah project. (books, cleaning items, food). We have door prize drawings for Judaica themed items (books, CDs, puzzles) that I have received as donations. We end the program with a group sing-a-long from our music specialist. It is a fun time for teachers, parents, and children altogether. The flyer is sent home to Preschool families, advertised in the Beth Yeshurun message (newsletter), and an email about the event has been sent to our database. The Preschool Judaica Family Fun Night activities are coordinated by Bonnie Suchart, Family Life Coordinator for Beth Yeshurun and Rabbi Brian Strauss.*



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