

Kaufman Silverberg Library
Kindergarten and Grade 1
Suggested Reading List
2013

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Easy Reading with Judaic Content

- Bagels from Benny*, by Aubrey Davis. Benny leaves a bag of bagels in the synagogue every week. They always disappear helping Benny to discover more about faith, generosity and the world of hidden possibilities.
- Cakes and Miracles: a Purim tale*, by Barbara Diamond Goldin. Young, blind Hershel finds that he has special gifts he can use to help his mother during the Jewish holiday of Purim. Features a recipe for hamantaschen.
- Ella's Trip to Israel*, by Vivian Newman. A young girl travels through Israel with her parents and best friend Koofi, a stuffed monkey, whose misadventures are never a problem.
- The Golem's Latkes*, adapted by Eric A. Kimmel. Rabbi Judah Loew ben Bezalel visits the Emperor, leaving a new housemaid to prepare for his Hanukkah party, but returns to find that she has misused the clay man he created.
- Problems in Purimville: a Purim story*, by Karen Fisman. Jacob and Sarah set out on a remarkable adventure just before Purim after receiving a mysterious cry for help.
- The Queen who saved her People: Book of Esther for children*, by Carol Greene. Children ages 5 to 9 will enjoy this retelling of Esther's story.
- Sammy Spider's New Friend*, by Sylvia A. Rouss. As the Shapiros prepare to welcome a new family to their neighborhood, Sammy, a young spider who lives in the Shapiro's house, is blown by the wind into the neighbor's yard and entertains little Moti, who speaks to him in Hebrew.
- A Song for my Sister*, by Lesley Simpson. Mira's birthday wish comes true when her baby sister is born, but the little one spends her first eight days wailing, leaving the family at a loss for a name to announce at her simchat bat until Mira's song during the naming ceremony has an unexpected effect.
- The Wind that wanted to Rest*, by Sheldon Oberman. Based on a Jewish tale from Soviet Russia about the good that flows from acceptance and understanding.
- Yuvi's Candy Tree*, by Lesley Simpson. Fleeing famine in her native Ethiopia, five-year-old Yuvi is sure she will have a candy tree when she arrives in Jerusalem.

Easy Reading Fiction

- Curious George goes to an Ice Cream Shop*, by Margret Rey and Alan J. Shalleck. Curious George makes a messy mistake while visiting a new ice cream shop.
- Flat Stanley at Bat*, by Lori Haskins Houran. Flat Stanley tries out for the baseball team and outwits the best players until the fairness of his "flat-vantage" is called into question.
- Froggy goes to the Doctor*, by Jonathan London. Froggy isn't looking forward to his check-up because he might get a shot but when it's over and he's pronounced a very healthy frog.
- Layla's Head Scarf*, by Miriam Cohen. New in first grade, shy Layla is reluctant to participate in class activities because she feels her head scarf makes her look different from her classmates.

Mike and Spike, by Mary Beth Spann. An easy reader that helps to build reading skills.

Moses goes to a Concert, by Isaac Millman. Moses and his schoolmates, all deaf, attend a concert where the orchestra's percussionist is also deaf. Includes illustrations in sign language and a page showing the manual alphabet.

My Brother Charlie, by Holly Robinson Peete. A girl tells what it is like living with her twin brother who has autism.

Our Tree named Steve, by Alan Zweibel. In a letter to his children, a father recounts memories of the role Steve, the tree in their front yard, has played in their lives.

Thank You, Mr. Falker, by Patricia Polacco. At first, Trisha loves school, but her difficulty learning to read makes her feel dumb, until, in the fifth grade, a new teacher helps her understand and overcome her problem.

The Very Cranky Bear, by Nick Bland. On a rainy, cold day in the jungle, four animal friends hide in a cave to play, but unexpectedly meet a bear trying to nap.

Young Cam Jansen and the Magic Bird Mystery, by David A. Adler. Aunt Molly takes Cam and her friend Eric to see a magic show at Teddy's Toys. During the show, Teddy's bird, Oscar, disappears.

Easy Reading Non Fiction

Dem Bones, by Bob Barner. Descriptions of skeletal structures are interspersed with the words of the traditional African American spiritual, "Dem Bones."

Energy, by Vijaya Khisty Bodach. Examines energy in a variety of forms, how one form of energy converts into another and how it is stored.

Fractions, by Sara Pistoia. Learn about math using fun, everyday examples like jelly beans and teddy bears.

Jobs on wheels; Trabajos rodantes, by Jennifer B. Gillis. This bilingual book in Spanish and English is designed to expose young students to the variety of neighborhood characteristics.

Let's go! The story of getting from there to here, by Lizann Flatt. Take a journey across North America and through time to discover all the ways we've traveled from there to here, from the Stone Age hunters who walked from Asia to this land, all the way to space voyagers' dreams today.

Neighborhood Helpers, by Jennifer B. Gillis. Highlights various professionals in one's neighborhood that help people in their everyday lives.

Plant Cycle, by Ray James. Helps young readers learn about seeds, reproduction and growth of plants.

Unusual Birds, by Jacqueline Dineen. Young readers will learn about flightless birds, night hunters, where cuckoo's nest, how birds eat and more.

Where do People go when they die? by Mindy Avra Portnoy. In this sensitively written book, children ask various adults and themselves, "Where do people go when they die?" Each response is different and reflects various beliefs about death.

Wonders of the World, by Moana Ashley. Introduces young readers to some wonderful places such as the longest river, the highest waterfall, the highest mountain and more.