

Planting Hope

Tu Bishvat Seder
A Guidebook for Teachers
and Community Leaders



Target audience: All ages

Type of Activity: Interactive Presentation

Activity Duration: Flexible, 30-90 minutes

Objectives:

- Achieving familiarity with a variety of facts, sources and quotes relating to Tu Bishvat.
- Achieving familiarity with KKL-JNF and its areas of activity.
- Having fun.

Location: Computer lab

Tools:

- Computer and monitor
- Projector
- Speakers

Equipment and Preparation:

You should be familiar with the presentation and the accompanying materials prior to leading the activity.

Food and Drinks Required for the Seder:

- White wine or water
- Red wine or grape juice

Fruit:

- Raisins or grapes
- Nuts
- Dates
- Fruit salad for dessert – Can be made together as a group before the Seder.

Additional Fruits and Other Foods:

Seven Species: Assorted pastries to symbolize wheat (bread) and barley (multigrain cookies, for example), pomegranates, figs and olives.

Root Vegetable Soup: Symbolizes the winter. Roots grow deeper into the ground.

Vegetable quiche: Symbolizes the spring. Apples, citrus fruits.

Recommended Preparations (Optional):

- Set tables for the Seder – table cloths, cups, small plates with dried and fresh fruit.
- Pour wine – wine pourers can be appointed.
- Decorate the room.
- Arrange for musical instruments and amplifiers.
- Appoint readers to read various passages or have them selected by the Seder leader.

* The Seder can also be carried out without this equipment.



Introduction

We are pleased to present you with a comprehensive and convenient educational package that you can use to conduct an interactive and enjoyable Tu Bishvat Seder.

The presentation include songs, texts, verses, videos and demonstrations that you may choose to use during your Seder depending on your target audience, your time constraints or the attention levels or dynamics of your event.

This way, each teacher or leader can plan and implement a Seder that meets his or her needs and the needs of the participants, both in terms of content and time.

The presentation is designed in the traditional Seder format and includes four cups of wine, ritual foods, holiday songs and Israeli folk songs, blessings and biblical verses.

While the Seder is possible without special equipment or foods, we recommend that you include the traditional foods, songs and cups of wine in order to maintain a festive atmosphere and maximize your participants' enjoyment.

Installation and Operation Instructions

- In the event that your computer's security system does not allow the presentation to open automatically, you will need to open the file folder and open the file entitled "**seder.exe**".
- The presentation is designed to open and automatically fill the screen. It is designed for a screen display resolution of 1024x768 pixels and higher.

If the picture is cropped, right click and select "**show all**".

- When copying the presentation file to a USB drive or your computer, make sure to keep the file "**seder.exe**" in its accompanying media folder.
- In order to leave the full screen Tu Bishvat Seder Presentation, press the **Esc** key on your keyboard.
- The presentation is designed for the Windows operating system only.

Navigating the Presentation



Several of the slides feature a control bar at the bottom that contains icons that open songs, presentations or videos. For the benefit of the Seder leader, the duration of the video or song appears on the icon. The leader may choose (either in advance or during the Seder) which icons to open and which to skip. Each song and video file includes control buttons that allow the Seder leader to adjust the volume, skip backward or forward or return to the main presentation.



More Information icon – Presents a number of interesting facts.

From any point in the presentation, you can skip to the last slide (if you ran out of time, for example) or to return to the beginning of the presentation.



Previous slide



Back to the beginning



Last slide



Next slide

Special Slides



Slides 2 & 5: Interactive slides that facilitate audience participation by means of asking questions, waiting for the answers and then opening one answer at a time.

Slide 9: Interactive slide that teaches the colors of the KKL-JNF logo.

Invite participants to guess which KKL-JNF activities are represented by each color. Click on each color on KKL-JNF's logo to display the answers. After you have explored all three colors, click the "**Zionism**" icon and explain that KKL-JNF was established by the Zionist Movement in order to redeem and settle the Land of Israel. Later, KKL-JNF took on the task of developing the land. Now click the "**Ecology**" icon. Explain that KKL-JNF is now Israel's largest ecological organization and explain how KKL-JNF promotes ecological Zionism by means of preserving and developing the environment for future generations. By clicking the icon again, the slide will return to its start screen and you will have demonstrated that ecological Zionism is the very essence of KKL-JNF's work.

You can learn more by visiting KKL-JNF's website: www.kkl.org.il

Or by visiting KKL-JNF's Open Window site: www.greenwin.kkl.org.il

Reading Aloud

Based on the ability and willingness of your group, we recommend that the passages be shared among the presentation, participants and the leader. Like the Passover Seder, it is nice to include group participation and sing-alongs. In order to maintain the momentum of the Seder without stopping to find volunteers for each passage, we recommend that you find volunteers in advance. These volunteers should sit together during the Seder and read their parts either from a "stage" area or from their seats when called on by the Seder leader. In the event that you plan on conducting the Seder in its entirety, you should select around eight volunteers in advance.

The following breakdown is a suggestion only. The event should be suited to the needs of the participants.



Slide 1: The leader reads aloud.



Slide 2: Ask: "Why do we plant trees?" Open the answer balloons one by one.



Slide 3: Read the Planters' Prayer along with the audience. (You can choose to read only the first or last paragraph aloud).



Slide 4: Call on a volunteer from the audience to read this section.



Slide 5: Ask: "What does the New Year for Trees symbolize?" "What are the sources for the holiday?" Open the answer balloons one by one.



Slide 6: The leader reads the opening section. Pour the first cup of wine and make the blessing together.



Slide 7: Call upon two participants to read two sections of text. The leader may choose whether to read the facts about almonds in the information balloon.



Slide 8: Make the blessing together.



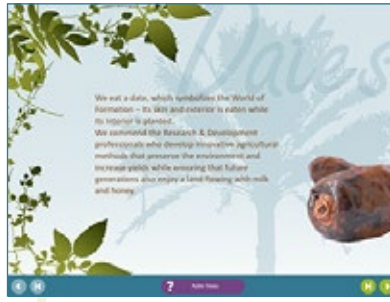
Slide 9: Ask the audience about KKL-JNF's efforts and discuss the subject.



Slide 10: The leader reads the opening section. Pour the second cup of wine and make the blessing together.



Slide 11: Call upon a “righteous” volunteer from the audience to read the passage aloud.



Slide 12: Read the passage and make the blessing together. The leader may choose whether to read the facts about dates in the information balloon.



Slide 13: The leader reads the opening section. Pour the third cup of wine and make the blessing together.



Slide 14: Make the blessing together and eat. Call upon a volunteer to read the passage aloud. The leader may choose whether to read the facts about grapes in the information balloon.



Slide 15: The leader reads the opening section. Pour the third cup of wine and make the blessing together.



Slide 16: Call upon a volunteer from the audience to read the passage aloud.



Slide 17: Read aloud with the audience.



Slide 18: Call upon a volunteer to read the passage aloud.



Slide 19: Call upon a volunteer to read the passage aloud or have the leader read.



Slide 20: Read aloud with the audience and read the end slowly.



Appendix: Additional Options

The Tu Bishvat Seder is comprised of a number of levels, which are symbolized by the acronym Degel (דג"ל):

- ד – Four seasons (and cups of wine)
- ג – Three worlds
- ל – Thirty types of fruits

The four cups of wine in the Seder symbolize the four seasons and their effects on plants and trees:

- White wine – Autumn.
- White wine with a bit of red wine – Winter.
- Half white wine and half red wine – Spring.
- Red wine – Summer.

The three worlds symbolized by the various fruits in the Seder:

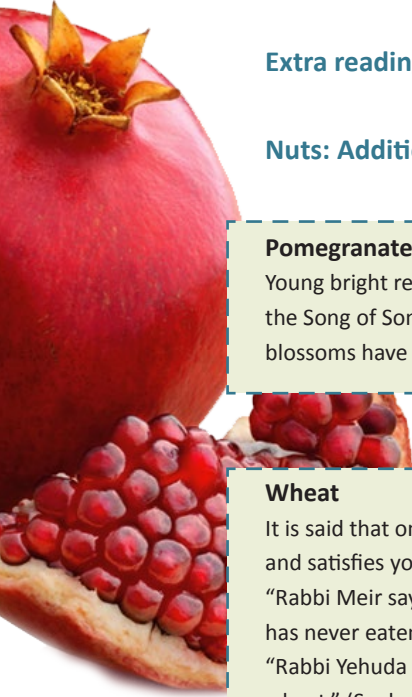
- World of Creation – Fruits eaten whole.
- World of Formation – Fruits whose peel and outer portion and seeds are planted.
- World of Action – Fruits whose inner parts are eaten and peels are discarded.

Before the Seder, present the participants with passages about other fruits, each of which attributed to one of the worlds. Explain the different worlds and the Seder's structure before commencing activity.

During the Seder, following each blessing on fruit, invite participants to check if their fruit is attributed to that particular world. If so, invite them to read the passage they have been given. Ask the audience to give examples of other fruits that are attributed to each world.

Extra readings – Additional Fruits.

Nuts: Additional fruits from the World of Action – Inside is eaten, outside is discarded.



Pomegranate

Young bright red pomegranates have always symbolized rapture and passion, as demonstrated in the text of the Song of Songs: "Let us rise early and go to the vineyards; Let us see whether the vine has budded And its blossoms have opened, And whether the pomegranates have bloomed..." (Song of Songs, 7:12-13).

Wheat

It is said that one who sees wheat in his dream sees peace, as it is said: "He grants peace to your borders and satisfies you with the finest of wheat" (Psalms, 147:14).

"Rabbi Meir says that it was wheat. When a person has no knowledge, they say [in a folk saying]: "That man has never eaten wheat bread in his life." (Genesis Rabbah 15:8)

"Rabbi Yehuda says that it was wheat, as a small child does not call "Mother, father" before he has tasted wheat." (Sanhederin, 70b)



Citrus Fruits

"And you shall take on the first day the fruit of goodly trees, branches of palm-trees, and boughs of thick trees, and willows of the brook, and ye shall rejoice before the Lord your God seven days." (Leviticus, 23:40). Consider the citron (etrog). If you cut it in half, it is like two hearts. One heart faces upward and one heart faces downward. So too we must also look deep into our hearts so that we may understand what is above and beyond ourselves.



Dates: Fruits from the World of Formation – Outside is eaten, seeds are planted.

Olive

Olives are one of the Seven Species with which the Land of Israel was blessed. Olive trees are strikingly beautiful, long-living and have a variety of beneficial properties (nutrition, health, economy, and light).
“It is said of one who sees olives in his dream, if they are small, his business opportunities will grow and multiply like olives. If he saw olive trees, he will have many children.” (Brachot, 57a)
“Your wife will be like a fruitful vine within your house; your children will be like olive shoots around your table.” (Psalms, 128:3)
“Some say that if one sees an olive in his dream he will acquire a good name, as it says, The Lord called thy name a leafy olive-tree, fair and goodly fruit.” (Brachot, 57a)



Apple

“Why were the Israelites compared to an apple tree? To teach you: just as the fruit of the apple tree precedes its leaves, so did the Israelites give precedence to ‘we will do’ over ‘we will hear.’” (Babylonian Talmud, Shabbat, 88a)
“Like an apple tree does not bear fruit until the month of Sivan, the Children of Israel did not receive their fruits until the month of Sivan, which is the month the Torah was given.” (Yalkut Shimoni, Song of Songs, B)
“Rabbi Azariah says that like an apple tree takes fifty days from its first buds until its fruits are ripe, the Children of Israel also took fifty days from leaving Egypt until they received the Torah.” (Yalkut Shimoni, Song of Songs, B)

Carob

“One day he [Honi the Circle Drawer] was journeying on the road and he saw a man planting a carob tree; he asked him, How long does it take [for this tree] to bear fruit? The man replied: Seventy years. He then further asked him: Are you certain that you will live another seventy years? The man replied: I found [ready grown] carob trees in the world; as my forefathers planted these for me so I too plant these for my children.” (Taanit, 23a)
Consider the carob. Its dark curved exterior is deceiving and makes it look like the entire thing is one hard shell. However, carob’s many fans know that this is not true. Its meaty center is so sweet that it is referred to as “carob honey” and is used as an alternative to refined sugar.
For years, carobs have been eaten and their seeds were used as weights by jewelers and pharmacists. The word “carat” comes from the Latin word for this plant.

Grapes: Fruits from the World of Creation – Eaten whole.

Fig

The fig is the first fruit to be mentioned in the Torah and one of the Seven Species with which the Land of Israel was blessed. In addition, figs symbolize the Torah. Figs are known for their beauty, their taste and their nutritional value. Figs are eaten fresh or dried and are used for jams and fig honey.
“As figs are narrow on the bottom and wide on top, in the future, Jerusalem will expand on all sides and the Diaspora will come and rest under it.” (Song of Songs Rabbah, 7:3)



Video Summaries

A Plant's Story (3:05): This video shows a plant's stages of growth, from the seed planted and cared for in one of KKL-JNF's nurseries, through its planting and growth until it is part of a green forest.

KKL-JNF's Story (1:14): An animated video that depicts the establishment of KKL-JNF as well as many of its projects.

One Tree (1:30): Nili finds a unique and creative way to answer all of the questions that her family asks her. This creative video shows the importance of planting trees.

How to Plant Trees (2:05): A lost bunny learns why it is important to plant trees and how to do it properly.

Song List

Kach Holchim Hashotlim / This is what the Planters Do

Lyrics: Yitzhak Shenar
Melody: Yedidya Admon

Ba'erez Ahavati Hashaked Pore'ah / In my Beloved Land the Almond Tree Blooms

Lyrics: Leah Goldberg
Melody: Moni Amerilio

Hashkedia Porahat/The Almond Tree Blossoms

Lyrics: Yisrael Dushman
Melody: Menashe Ravina

Eretz Yisrael Yafa / The Land of Israel is Beautiful

Lyrics: Dudu Barak
Melody: Sheike Faikov

Eretz Zavot Halav U'dvash

Lyrics: Bible
Melody: Eliyahu Gamliel

Al Kol Eleh / For all of These

Lyrics and Melody:
Naomi Shemer

Shabchi Yerushalayim/ Praise Jerusalem

Lyrics: Psalms
Melody: Avihu Medina

Od Lo Tamu Kol Pla'ayich / Your Wonders Have Not Yet Ceased

Lyrics: Yoram Toharlev
Melody: Rami Kleinshtein

Shir Ha'ma'a lot / A Song of Ascents

Lyrics: Psalms
Melody: Yoseleh Rosenblatt

**Produced by the Youth and Education Department, Pedagogical
Department, Keren Kayemeth Lelsrael – Jewish National Fund**

Forest line: 1-800-350-550
www.kkl.org.il
www.greenwin.kkl.org.il

Photos from KKL-JNF's photo archive
All rights reserved by Keren Kayemeth Lelsrael – Jewish National Fund.

