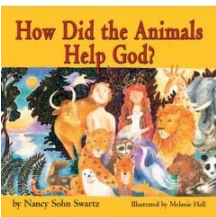


The Auerbach Central Agency for Jewish Education
Seidman Educational Resource Center

Jewish Family Summer Reading Club
5766 - 2006

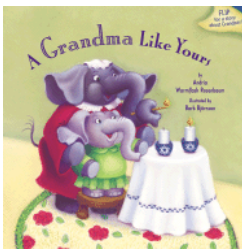
Suggested Reading Lists

“Read to Me!” Books



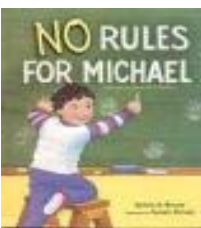
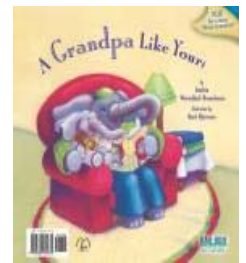
How Did the Animals Help God? By Nancy Sohn Swartz, illustrated by Melanie Hall. Skylight Paths, 2004.

Takes you and your child on an imaginative journey designed to help you open not only your child’s mind, but your child’s heart and soul as well.



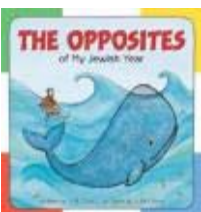
A Grandma Like Yours; A Grandpa Like Yours by Andria Warmflash Rosenbaum, illustrated by Barb Bjornson. Kar-Ben, 2006.

Two rhyming stories of wonderful Jewish grandmothers and grandfathers. Flip the book for each story! Includes a glossary of Hebrew terms.



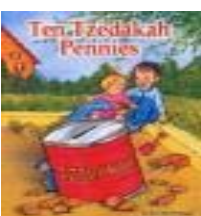
No Rules for Michael by Sylvia A. Rouss, illustrated by Susan Simon. Kar-Ben, 2003.

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.



The Opposites of My Jewish Year by I.N. Dion. Kar-Ben, 2005.

This brightly illustrated book presents the concepts of opposites by showing children celebrating various Jewish holidays.



Ten Tzedakah Pennies by Joni Klein-Higger. Hachai, 2005.

While counting backwards from ten to one, this simple story conveys the mitzvah of tzedakah.

Children's Books



A Box of Candles by Laurie A. Jacobs, illustrated by Shelley Schonebaum Ephraim. Boyds Mill Press, 2005.

Follow the Jewish custom of lighting candles throughout the Shabbat and holiday year. Includes a glossary of terms and explanations related to Jewish customs and traditions. For younger readers.



Dreamer from the Village: The Story of Marc Chagall by Michelle Markel, illustrated by Emily Lisker. Holt Henry Books for Young Readers, 2004.

This book chronicles the life of Marc Chagall, with emphasis on his Jewish roots in a shtetl in Russia. It is illustrated boldly in the style of this celebrated twentieth-century artist.



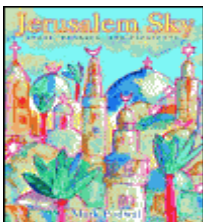
Houdini: World's Greatest Mystery Man and Escape King, by Kathleen Krull, illustrated by Eric Velasquez. Walker and Co., 2006.

Beautifully illustrated introductory biography of Houdini, which focuses on his magic tricks. Facts about his life are simplified and streamlined and convey the essence of his personality.



In God's Hands by Lawrence Kushner and Gary Schmidt, illustrated by Matthew J. Baek. Jewish Lights Publishing, 2005.

While contemplating their problems in a synagogue, Jacob and David, one man rich, the other poor, come to realize their role in making miracles happen. Inspired by an ancient legend.



Jerusalem Sky: Stars, Crosses, and Crescents by Mark Podwal. Bantam Doubleday Books for Young Readers, 2005.

Simple poetry about Jerusalem is highlighted by the author's colorful pastel drawings. For younger readers.



Kibitzers and Fools: Tales My Zayda Told Me by Simms Taback. Penguin Young Readers, 2005.

Thirteen brief, illustrated, traditional Jewish Chelm-like tales, each accompanied by an appropriate moral maxim. Sydney Taylor Honor Award for Young Readers.



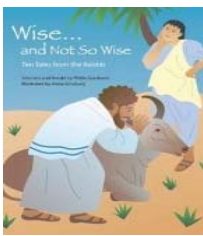
The Last Pair of Shoes by Sashi Fridman, illustrated by Seva. 2005.
Shalva, a young orphan, provides for his family by making shoes. But when a man enters his workshop for a favor that could cost him his own livelihood, Shalva is faced with a difficult decision.



Ruth and Naomi: A Bible Story, retold and illustrated by Jean Marzollo. Little, Brown and Co., 2005.
Charming illustrations, sidebar commentary by the main characters, and clever footnote comments by bunny rabbits, enliven this Bible story for younger readers.

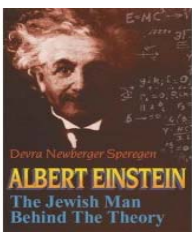


Sholom's Treasure: How Sholom Aleichem Became a Writer, by Erica Silverman, illustrated by Mordicai Gerstein. Farrar, Straus, and Giroux, 2005.
Sholom's childhood in a Russian shtetl reveals the influences that turned him into a great Yiddish writer. The book portrays him as a lovable rascal, one of modern Jewish culture's most famous and beloved champions. Sydney Taylor Award for Young Readers.

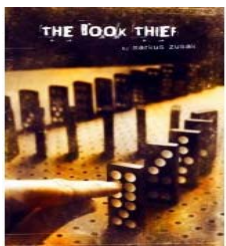


Wise and Not So Wise: Ten Tales from the Rabbis, selected and retold by Phillis Gershator, illustrated by Alexa Ginsburg. Jewish Publication Society, 2004.
A delightful collection of stories from Talmudic and Midrashic folklore which answer questions and teach moral lessons using the teaching of our sages.

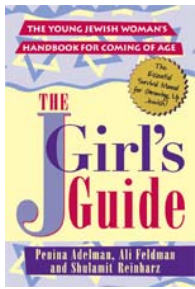
Young Adult Books



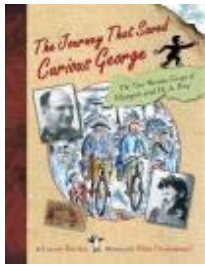
Albert Einstein: Jewish Man Behind the Theory, by Devora Newberger Speregen. Jewish Publication Society, 2006.
A biography of the great scientist, which focuses on him as a Jewish thinker and champion of Israel.



The Book Thief by Markus Zusak. Knopf Books for Young Readers, 2006.
Set in Germany in World War II. The heroine, Liesel, is forced into Hitler Youth and "Mein Kampf" is used to save a young Jewish man named Max.

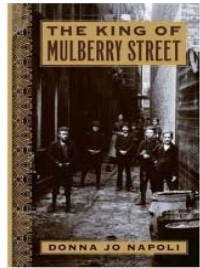


The Jewish Girls Guide: The Young Woman's Handbook for Coming of Age, by Penina Adelman, Ali Feldman and Shulamit Reinharz. Jewish Lights, 2005.
An excellent mother-daughter/group book written for girls of all movements. It contains a potpourri of information covering a variety of aspects of Jewish life for preteen and teen girls.



The Journey that Saved Curious George: The True Wartime Escape of Margret and H.A. Rey by Louise Borden, illustrated by Allan Drummond. Houghton Mifflin, 2005.

The exciting true story of how the creators of the world's favorite monkey escaped wartime Paris on homemade bicycles.



The King of Mulberry Street by Donna Jo Napoli. Wendy Lamb Books, 2005.

Stowed away by his mother on an immigrant ship from Italy, nine-year-old Dom arrives in New York and begins a life for himself. His adventures and misadventures are an exciting and inspiring story.



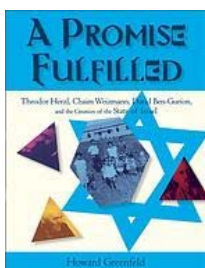
Memories of Survival by Esther Nisenthal Krinitz and Bernice Steinhardt. Hyperion, 2005.

Exquisite pictorial embroideries illustrate this poignant memoir of a Jewish girl in Poland during World War II.



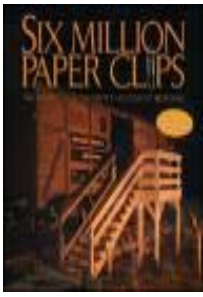
My Guardian Angel by Sylvie Weil. Arthur A. Levine Books, 2005.

In 11th-century Troyes, France, Elvina, the unusual granddaughter of renowned Jewish rabbi Solomon ben Isaac (Rashi), who prefers studying and writing to activities considered respectable for girls, takes a great risk by helping a young boy who has run away from a group of Christian Crusaders.



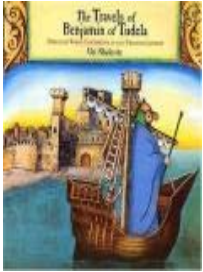
A Promise Fulfilled: Theodor Hertzl, Chaim Weitzmann and David Ben-Gurion, and the Creation of the State of Israel by Howard Greenfeld. Greenwillow Books, 2005.

An engrossing account of three very different men who were central to the founding of modern Israel.



Six Million Paper Clips: The Making of a Children's Holocaust Memorial by Peter W. Schroeder and Dagmar Schroeder-Hildebrand. Kar-Ben Publishing, 2004.

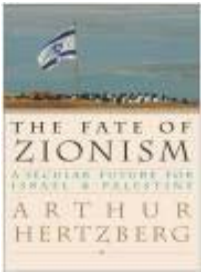
The dramatic story of how a mostly White, Protestant town in rural Tennessee created a Holocaust Memorial. Middle school students began collecting paper clips in order to try to comprehend the number six million and learned a lot more.



Travels of Benjamin of Tudela: Through Three Continents in the Twelfth Century written and illustrated by Uri Shulevitz. Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 2005.

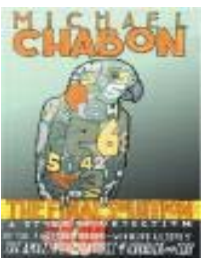
Known only from the book he wrote about his travels, Benjamin left Spain in 1159 and spent 14 years traveling. This beautifully illustrated chronicle shows the 12th century world as he might have experienced it.

Adult Books



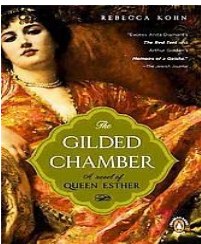
The Fate of Zionism: A Secular Future for Israel and Palestine by Arthur Hertzberg. Harper Collins, 2003.

The author calls for a return to modern Zionism's secular roots as he charts a middle path between extremists of both sides of the issue.



The Final Solution: A Story of Detection by Michael Chabon. Harper Collins, 2004.

A mute nine-year-old refugee from Germany, a parrot, and a retired English sleuth join forces to solve a mystery.



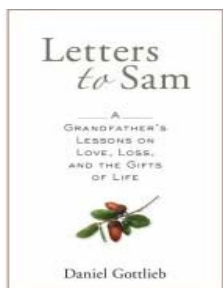
The Gilded Chamber: A Novel of Queen Esther by Rebecca Kohn. Penguin, 2005.

An imaginative recounting of the Biblical heroine who became queen of Persia and saved her people from annihilation. In the footsteps of *The Red Tent*.



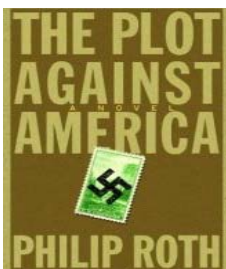
The Israelis: Ordinary People in an Extraordinary Land by Donna Rosenthal. Simon and Shuster, 2003.

Describes Israel's vibrant and varied population - from Jewish Israelis to Arab Christian Israelis to Muslim Arab Israelis.



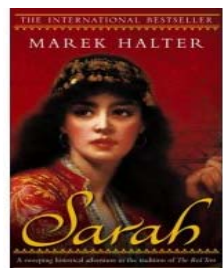
Letters to Sam: A Grandfather's Lessons on Love, Loss and the Gift of Life by Daniel Gottlieb. Sterling, 2006.

A collection of intimate and compassionate letters the author wrote to his autistic grandson, Sam. The letters offer inspirational and comforting advice.



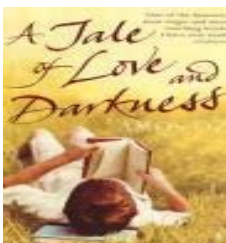
The Plot against America by Philip Roth. Vintage, 2004.

This novel by Pulitzer Prize-winning author Philip Roth recounts what life might have been like for his Newark, New Jersey family during the menacing years of a "Lindbergh presidency," when American Jews feared for the worst.



Sarah: A Heroine of the Old Testament by Marek Halter. Transworld Publishers, 2006.

In the cradle of history, the city of Ur, the story of Sarah begins. The worlds of that Sumerian city, life in Canaan, and life in Egypt are brought to us through her eyes.



A Tale of Love and Darkness by Amos Oz, translated by Nicholas de Lange. Harvest Books, 2005.

A family saga and magical self-portrait of the writer, who was born in pre-State Israel and lived through its turbulent history. A National Jewish Book Award winner.

For additional reading lists, see

<http://www.ajae.org/content/educationalResources/readingclub/readingclub.shtml>

Prepared by Nancy M. Messinger, Director of Educational Resources.

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