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For Eve and Jonah; Jonathan, Brianna, Ethan, and Nate

— G.G.

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**B**atya and Ben love to go to baseball games. They love wearing their home team's cap, doing the wave, and cheering when their favorite player hits a home run. At each game, the excitement builds from the very beginning as the stadium fills with thousands of fans. Everyone stands and sings the national anthem with pride and respect. It's the signal that the game is about to begin.

What is your favorite sport and team?

---

How do you feel when everyone in a stadium rises and sings the anthem?

---

Synagogue prayer services—from Tel Aviv to Tacoma—also begin in a certain way. The congregation rises, faces the Holy Ark, bows as a sign of respect to God, and recites a prayer called the בְּרִכּוֹ.

The בְּרִכּוֹ is like an announcement to the community: *The prayer service is beginning!* 🇺🇸



Hi! I'm Minnie Minyan. Think about this: The words of the U.S. national anthem were written in 1814. The בְּרִכּוֹ was written almost *three thousand years ago* and has been recited since the time of the ancient Temple—בֵּית הַמִּקְדָּשׁ.



The prayer leader chants



בְּרַכּוֹ אֶת-יְיָ הַמְּבָרָךְ.

*Praise Adonai, who is to be praised.*

Then the congregation responds in agreement

בְּרוּךְ יְיָ הַמְּבָרָךְ לְעוֹלָם וָעֶד.

*Praised is Adonai, who is to be praised forever and ever.*



Our tradition teaches that a group of at least ten Jewish adults must be present in order to hold a community prayer service. That group is called a **מִנְיָן**.



### Reading Rounds

The words below contain the family letters בּ ב and כּ כ. Read each line aloud.

1. בְּכָר בְּרוּךְ כּוֹכְבִּים אָכַל לֶךְ כְּמִלְכָּנוּ כְּמוֹךְ
2. בָּב בְּרַכּוֹ בְּדָבָרוֹ בִּלְבָב בְּבֵית אָבֵל הַמְּבָרָךְ
3. כָּב מִכְּבִּי כָּל מְכַלְכֵּל מְכַל בְּרָכוֹת בְּתוֹכָנוּ
4. בָּב בָּחַר בּוֹרָא בְּרָכָה בָּנוּ בָּרַךְ אֲבִרָהֶם
5. כָּכ כְּמִכָּה יָדָךְ בְּרוּכִים מֶלֶךְ יְמִלְךָ
6. כָּכ כֵּן מְכַל כְּמִלְכָּנוּ כָּלֵב בְּרַכּוֹ מְכַלְכֵּל

## Prayer Words

Practice reading these words from the בְּרָכוּ.

bless! praise!

בְּרָכוּ

Adonai

יְיָ

who is to be blessed,  
praised

הַמְבָרָךְ

blessed, praised

בְּרוּךְ

forever and ever

לְעוֹלָם וָעֶד



בְּרָכָה

### Make the Connection

Draw a line to connect each Hebrew word to its English meaning.

forever and ever

הַמְבָרָךְ

who is to be blessed, praised

בְּרָכוּ

blessed, praised

לְעוֹלָם וָעֶד

bless! praise!

יְיָ

Adonai

בְּרוּךְ



## At the Root

Most Hebrew words are built on **roots**. A root usually consists of three letters. Words with the root letters **ברכ** have **bless** or **praise** as part of their meaning. (Reminder: כ looks like this at the end of a word כ)

Read the words below, then draw a line from each word that is built on the root letters **ברכ** to the **ברכ** tree.



Now circle all the words in the בְּרוּךְ on page 5 that are built on the root **ברכ**.



### Did You Know?

How did the בְּרוּךְ get its name? בְּרוּךְ is the first word of the prayer. The first word of a Hebrew prayer is often the name by which the prayer is known. Can you name another prayer that is known by its first word? Write it below in Hebrew or English.

\_\_\_\_\_



The בְּרוּךְ does double duty. It's also part of the blessing that we recite before we read the Torah.



## Language Link

Sometimes we use the word **ברוך** to welcome others.

- We can greet a new member of our class, a friend, or a guest in our home by saying "**ברוך הבא**"—"Welcome!" (literally, "Praised is the one who comes").
- For a girl or a woman we say "**ברוכה הבאה**."
- If we are welcoming more than one person, we use the plural form **ברוכים הבאים** (all male or male and female) or **ברוכות הבאות** (female only).

Match each Hebrew greeting with its illustration.



**ברוכות הבאות**



**ברוכים הבאים**



**ברוכה הבאה**



**ברוך הבא**

**ברוכים הבאים  
לישראל**





## Putting It in ConTEXT

As far back as the Bible, Jews have praised God for the good in their lives. For example, the Bible teaches that God promised Solomon's father, King David, that Solomon would build the Temple. King Solomon praised God when construction of the Holy Temple was completed.

Read King Solomon's words from the Bible.

בְּרוּךְ יְיָ אֱלֹהֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל אֲשֶׁר דִּבֶּר בְּפִי אֶת דְּוִד אָבִי  
וּבִידּוֹ מְלֵא...

*Praised be Adonai, the God of Israel, who honored through deeds the promise made to my father, David... (I Kings 8:15)*

Underline the Hebrew word above that is built on the root ברכ.

Circle King Solomon's father's name in Hebrew.

Draw a box around God's Hebrew name.

## We Pray It But Can't Say It

Some names are difficult to pronounce. It is *impossible* to pronounce God's name. Why? Tradition teaches us that thousands of years ago, the *kohanim*—the Temple priests in ancient Jerusalem—knew how to pronounce God's name. After the Temple was destroyed, the priests no longer said God's name, and the correct pronunciation was lost. Today we are not sure how God's name was pronounced, so we say "Adonai." (Some people say "הַשֵּׁם"—the Name.)

God's name is written in different ways but is always pronounced Adonai when we pray. In most siddurim it is written יְיָ. In other siddurim and in the Bible (תְּנִיָּה), it is written יְהוָה. In yet other Hebrew books God's name is written ה'.

Write your name two different ways that would both be pronounced the same.

\_\_\_\_\_

## Read and Circle

Practice reading the following sentences. Draw a circle around God's name wherever it appears.

1. בָּרְכוּ אֶת־יְיָ הַמְּבָרָךְ.

2. בְּרוּךְ יְיָ הַמְּבָרָךְ לְעוֹלָם וָעֶד.

3. מֵאִין כְּמוֹךָ, יְהוָה, גָּדוֹל אַתָּה וְגָדוֹל שְׁמֶךָ בְּגִבּוֹרָה.

4. כִּי לָךְ ה' הַגְדֵּלָה וְהַגְבִּיֹרָה וְהַתְפָּאֶרֶת.

5. יְיָ צְבָאוֹת שְׁמוֹ.

6. גָּדוֹל ה' וּמְהֵלָל מְאֹד, וְלִגְדֵּלְתוֹ אֵין חֶקֶר.

7. בְּרוּךְ יְיָ אֱלֹהֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל.

8. אֲנִי יְיָ אֱלֹהֵיכֶם.

## A Circle of Friends

We enter the synagogue as individuals and as families. But when we recite the **בְּרָכוּ** in a minyan, we become a prayer community. In the circle below write your name and the names of nine other people you would like to see at services.

Describe one thing you like about being yourself.

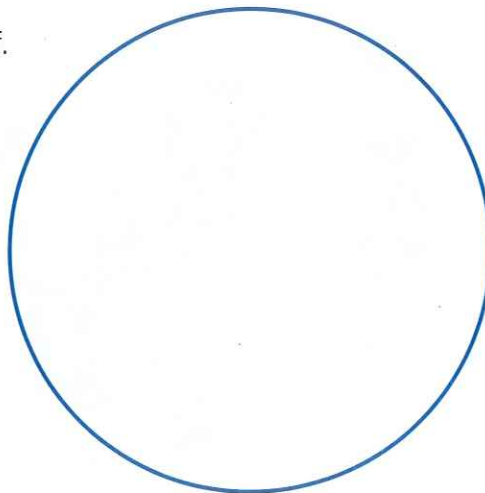
\_\_\_\_\_

Describe one thing you like about being a member of your family.

\_\_\_\_\_

Describe one thing you like about being a member of your synagogue community.

\_\_\_\_\_



## Clue to Cyberspace



Write the words of the **בְּרָכוּ** in the correct order on the lines below.

אֶת יְיָ בְּרָכוּ הַמְּבָרָךְ  
לְעוֹלָם בְּרוּךְ הַמְּבָרָךְ יְיָ וְעַד

\_\_\_\_\_ 1.

\_\_\_\_\_ 2.

Which word in the **בְּרָכוּ** is also the first word of most blessings? \_\_\_\_\_

Use this clue to score bonus points in the "Carnival Duck!" game in Level 1—**בְּרָכוּ**—on your computer.







**B**en and Batya were at a synagogue breakfast buffet. Ben took orange juice and a bagel. Batya chose cereal with strawberries and nuts. As they ate Ben said, "Trees and plants can't grow without light. That means that without light we couldn't have our favorite breakfast foods."

Which of your breakfast favorites are made from foods that grow on trees or plants?

---

If there were no sunlight, it would also be hard to have picnics, play sports outside, and go to the beach.

What outdoor activities does daylight make it possible for you to enjoy?

---

The Torah teaches us that God created the world and everything in it, and that God's first creation was light—אור. Prayer helps us say thank you for these gifts. 🌞



## Off to a Good Start

The **סידור** is like a friend who reminds us of all the good in our lives. For example, the morning prayer service begins with **יוצר אור**, blessings of thanks for the wonders of creation, including light—**אור**— and darkness (we'll talk about darkness later in this chapter), and **שלום**. The **יוצר אור** prayer is recited before the morning **שמע**. (You will learn about the **שמע** in the next chapter.)

Jewish tradition teaches that God brought two kinds of **אור** into our world—nature's light from the sun, moon, and stars, and the light of Torah's wisdom. Two ways people can add light are to perform acts of loving-kindness—**גמילות חסדים**—and contribute to the **שלום** in our family and community. We show loving-kindness when we visit the sick and help feed those in need. We add peace to the world when we are patient with and respectful of others.



Practice reading **יוצר אור**.



1. בָּרוּךְ אַתָּה, יְיָ אֱלֹהֵינוּ, מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם,
2. יוֹצֵר אוֹר וּבוֹרֵא חֹשֶׁךְ, עוֹשֶׂה שְׁלוֹם וּבוֹרֵא אֶת-הַכֹּל.

1. Praised are You, Adonai our God, Ruler of the world,
2. Who forms light and creates darkness, who makes peace and creates all things.

3. הַמֵּאִיר לָאָרֶץ וְלִדְרוֹת עֲלִיָּה בְּרַחֲמִים,
4. וּבִטְוֵבוֹ מַחְדֵּשׁ בְּכָל יוֹם תָּמִיד מַעֲשֵׂה בְּרִאשִׁית.
5. מֶה רַבּוֹ מַעֲשֵׂיָךְ, יְיָ,
6. כָּל־מִן בְּחִכְמָה עָשִׂיתָ, מְלֵאָה הָאָרֶץ קִנְיָנֶךָ.
7. תִּתְבָּרֶךְ, יְיָ אֱלֹהֵינוּ, עַל שֶׁבַח מַעֲשֵׂה יְדִיךָ
8. וְעַל מְאוֹרֵי אוֹר שְׁעָשִׂיתָ, יִפְאָרוּךְ סִלָּה.

3. With mercy, You light the world and those who live in it.
4. In Your goodness, every day You renew creation.
5. How numerous are Your works, Adonai!
6. In wisdom, You made them all, the world is filled with Your creatures.
7. Be praised, Adonai our God, for the magnificent work of Your hands,
8. And for the light You created, may they glorify You.

9. אור חדש על ציון תאיר ונזכה כלנו מהרה לאורו.

9. Shine a new light on Zion, that we all may quickly be worthy of its glow.

10. ברוך אתה, יי, יוצר המאורות.

10. Praised are You, Adonai, Creator of the heavenly lights.



The words "every day You renew creation" remind us that every day the sun rises and gives us its light, new flowers bloom, and kittens are born. What are some other ways in which God renews creation?

מעשה בראשית



## Prayer Words

Practice reading these words from יוצר אור.

king, ruler

מֶלֶךְ

light

אור

and creates

וּבֹרֵא

darkness

חֹשֶׁךְ

Your hands

יָדֶיךָ

the heavenly lights

הַמְּאֹרוֹת

Circle the word above that has the same root as אור.



אור וחֹשֶׁךְ



## Reading Rebus

Read each line below. Write the correct Hebrew word next to each picture.

הָעוֹלָם



1. בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה, יְיָ אֱלֹהֵינוּ, \_\_\_\_\_



2. יוצר אור ובורא \_\_\_\_\_



3. תְּתַבָּרֶךְ, יְיָ אֱלֹהֵינוּ, עַל שֶׁבַח מַעֲשֶׂה \_\_\_\_\_



4. בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה, יְיָ יוצר \_\_\_\_\_



## Magnificent!

Read lines 5–8 of **יוֹצֵר אֹר** in Hebrew and English (pages 13-14). If all God's creations are made "in wisdom" and are "magnificent," what does this prayer teach you about how you might behave toward other people?

---

---



### Reading Rounds

Read each line aloud.

- |               |           |              |            |          |
|---------------|-----------|--------------|------------|----------|
| 1. הָעוֹלָם   | יוֹצֵר    | עֹשֶׂה       | עֲלֶיהָ    | רוֹצֶה   |
| 2. מַעֲשֵׂה   | צִיּוֹן   | צָרִיף       | שְׁעָשִׁית | עַל      |
| 3. צָהוּב     | עָשִׂית   | עוֹד         | צָרִיכָה   | עֲכָשׁוּ |
| 4. מַעֲשִׂיךְ | צְדָקָה   | הַשְׁבִּיעִי | וְעַל      | צֵאתְכֶם |
| 5. לַצִּדִּיק | עֲלִיּוֹן | עֲלֵיכֶם     | צִיצִית    | מִצּוֹה  |



### Read and Repeat

Reread the lines above, this time with a partner. One person reads only words containing the letter **ע**. The other person reads only words containing **צ**.



## מַעְרִיב עֶרְבִים

"Daylight is great but I also like the night," announced Ben as he and Batya waited for prayer services to begin. "Campfires and fireworks would be *b-o-r-i-n-g* without the night, and ghost stories wouldn't be nearly as scary."

"I guess you're right," said Batya. "I'd miss seeing the stars and the glow of Hanukkah candles in the dark—and I'd sure miss my sleep!"

What might you miss if night never came again and if the world were never dark?

Just as **יוֹצֵר אוֹר** is recited before the morning **שְׁמַע**, so **מַעְרִיב עֶרְבִים** is recited before the evening **שְׁמַע**.

Practice reading these lines from **מַעְרִיב עֶרְבִים**.



1. בָּרוּךְ אַתָּה, יְיָ אֱלֹהֵינוּ, מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם,
2. אֲשֶׁר בְּדָבָרוֹ מַעְרִיב עֶרְבִים.
3. בַּחֲכָמָה פּוֹתַח שְׁעָרִים, וּבִתְבוּנָה מְשַׁנֶּה עֵתִים,
4. וּמַחֲלִיף אֶת הַזְּמַנִּים,
5. וּמַסְדֵּר אֶת הַכּוֹכָבִים בְּמִשְׁמְרוֹתֵיהֶם בְּרָקִיעַ כְּרִצּוֹנוֹ.
6. בּוֹרֵא יוֹם וְלַיְלָה, גּוֹלֵל אוֹר מִפְּנֵי חֹשֶׁךְ, וְחֹשֶׁךְ מִפְּנֵי אוֹר,
7. וּמַעֲבִיר יוֹם וּמַבְיֵא לַיְלָה, וּמַבְדִּיל בֵּין יוֹם וּבֵין לַיְלָה.

1. Praised are You, Adonai our God, Ruler of the world,
2. whose word brings on the evening.
3. Who opens gates with wisdom, and with understanding alters time,
4. Who changes the seasons,
5. and arranges the stars in their heavenly order according to plan.
6. Creator of day and night, You roll light away from darkness and darkness from light,
7. Turning day into night and separating between day and night.

8. יי צבאות שמו.

8. Adonai Tz'va'ot is God's name.

9. אל חי וקיים, תמיד ימלך עלינו לעולם ועד.

10. ברוך אתה, יי, המעריב ערבים.

9. May the living and eternal God rule over us always.

10. Praised are You, Adonai, who brings on the evening.



יְוֹצֵר אוֹר and מַעְרִיב עֶרְבִים are partner prayers that are like bookends to the Jewish day. יְוֹצֵר אוֹר is said before the שְׁמַע in the morning and מַעְרִיב עֶרְבִים is said before the שְׁמַע in the evening. Together, they remind us that God creates morning and night, light and darkness.

### Read and Circle

Read the lines below. Then complete the activities that follow.

1. בְּרוּךְ עֹשֶׂה בְּרֵאשִׁית

2. מֶלֶךְ מְהֻלָּל בַּתְּשׁבּוּחֹת

3. וְאַבְרָכָה שְׁמֶךָ לְעוֹלָם וָעֶד

4. הוּא יי אֱלֹהֵינוּ

5. תָּמִיד יִמְלֹךְ עָלֵינוּ לְעוֹלָם וָעֶד

Circle the two Hebrew words meaning "ruler" or "king" and "will rule."

Underline the two phrases meaning "always" or "forever and ever."

## Prayer Words

Practice reading these words from the **מַעֲרִיב עֶרְבִים** prayer.

brings on the evening

**מַעֲרִיב עֶרְבִים**

the stars

**הַכּוֹכָבִים**

and night

**וְלַיְלָה**

living, lives

**חַי**

will rule

**יִמְלֹךְ**

## PRAYER PUZZLE

Complete the puzzle by writing the Hebrew word for each English word below.

### Across

1. and night

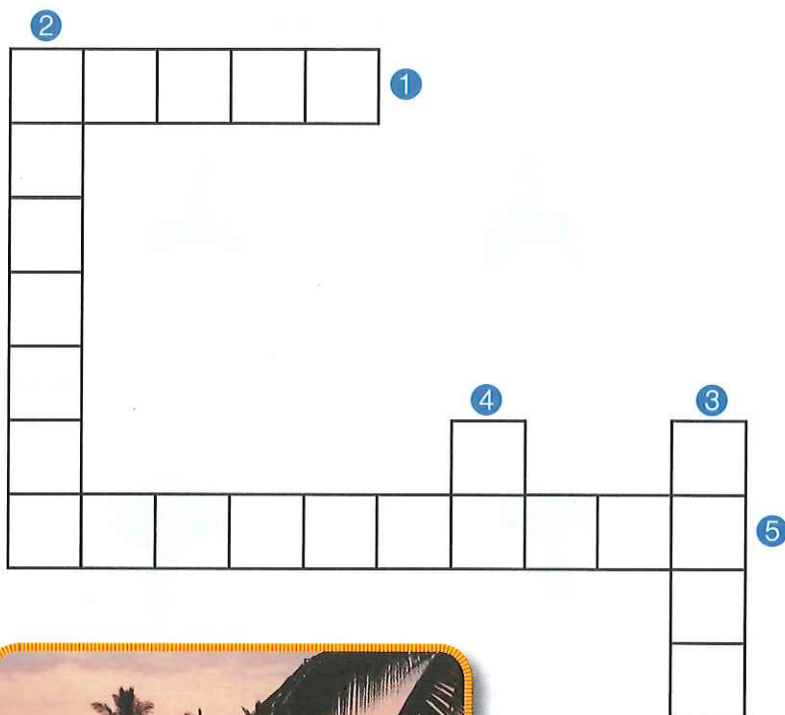
5. brings on the evening

### Down

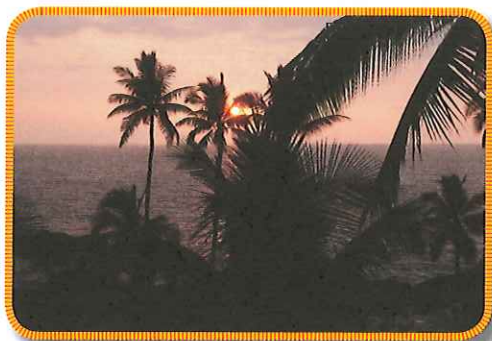
2. the stars

3. will rule

4. living, lives



**עֶרֶב**





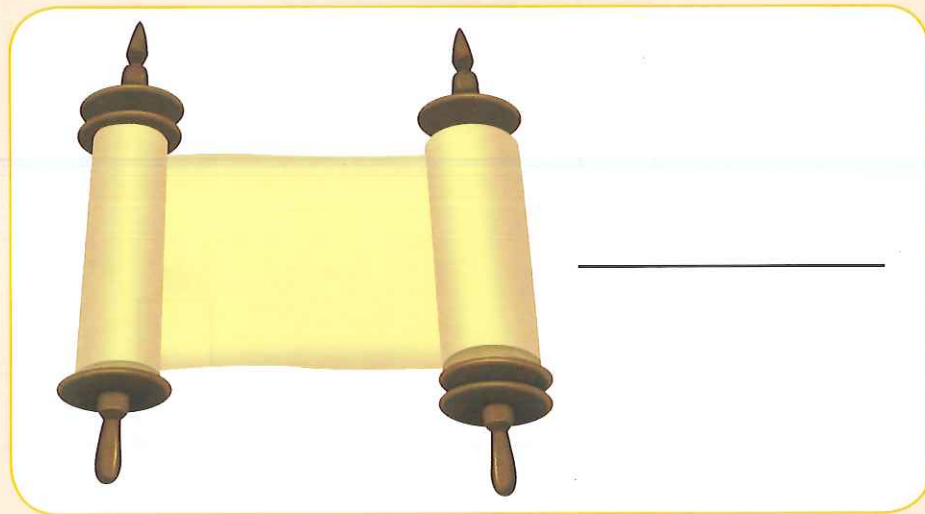
## Putting It in ConTEXT

מַעֲרִיב עֶרְבִים and יוֹצֵר אוֹר are based on teachings from the first chapter of the first book of the Bible.

וַיֹּאמֶר אֱלֹהִים יְהִי-אוֹר וַיְהִי-אוֹר: ...וַיַּבְדֵּל אֱלֹהִים בֵּין  
הָאוֹר וּבֵין הַחֹשֶׁךְ: וַיִּקְרָא אֱלֹהִים לְאוֹר יוֹם וּלְחֹשֶׁךְ קָרָא  
לַיְלָה וַיְהִי-עֶרֶב וַיְהִי-בֹקֶר יוֹם אֶחָד:

*God said, "Let there be light," and there was light...God separated the light from the darkness. God called the light Day, and the darkness God called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, Day One. (Genesis 1:3–5)*

Next to the Torah scroll below, write the Hebrew word for *light* that appears in Genesis 1:3. Circle the Hebrew word for *light* and any variation of this word each time it appears in the יוֹצֵר אוֹר prayer on pages 13–14. How many words did you circle? \_\_\_\_\_



Because the Torah says "And there was *evening* and there was *morning*, Day One," Jewish tradition teaches that each day begins in the evening. That is why, for example, Shabbat begins on Friday evening and ends on Saturday night when three stars can be seen in the evening sky.



## A Loving Twosome

In the evening and morning prayer services, there are two blessings that come before the **שְׁמַע**. You have already learned the first of these two blessings.

### Blessings before the שְׁמַע

	Theme	Evening Service	Morning Service
First blessing	Celebrates the wonder of creation and its renewal each day	מַעֲרִיב עֶרְבִים	יוֹצֵר אוֹר
Second blessing	Thanks God for giving us the Torah and mitzvot; our tradition teaches that these gifts show God's love for us	אֶהְבֵּת עוֹלָם	אֶהְבֵּה רַבָּה



### At the Root

**מַעֲרִיב** and **עֶרְבִים** are both built on the root **ערב**. Words built on the root **ערב** have **evening** or **mixed** as part of their meaning. Jewish tradition teaches that a tiny spark of God's light is mixed within the darkness.

Sometimes when we are worried or have a problem, it can feel as if we have a dark cloud over us. How might the teaching that even in darkness we can find a spark of God's light encourage us?

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To whom might you turn for help or support? Why? 

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## Language Link

It's easy to be friendly in Hebrew. You may already know that שלום means "peace," "hello," and "goodbye." But did you know that Israelis often say the word twice—שלום, שלום—to say hello?

ערב טוב means **good evening**, and לילה טוב means **good night**. When someone wishes you בוקר טוב, meaning **good morning**, a popular response is בוקר אור, meaning **morning of light**. And on שבת we greet everyone by saying, שבת שלום, at any time—night or day.

## Hebrew Howdy Do's

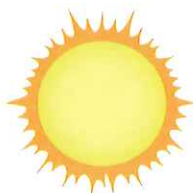
Draw a line to connect each greeting or phrase below to the picture that shows the time of day when it would be appropriate to say it. **Hint:** Two greetings can be connected to *both* pictures!

מַעֲרִיב עֶרְבִים

יוֹצֵר אֹר

שָׁלוֹם, שָׁלוֹם

לֵילָה טוֹב



בֹּקֶר טוֹב

עֶרֶב טוֹב

שַׁבַּת שָׁלוֹם

בֹּקֶר אֹר



בֹּקֶר טוֹב

## My Siddur

Practice each line below until you can read it with no mistakes. Then put a check in the box next to it.

☐

1. בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה, יְיָ, הַמַּעְרִיב עֶרְבִים

☐

2. יוֹצֵר אור ובוֹרֵא חֹשֶׁךְ

☐

3. בְּחִכְמָה פוֹתַח שְׁעָרִים

☐

4. בְּמִשְׁמְרוֹתֵיהֶם בְּרָקִיעַ כְּרִצּוֹנוֹ

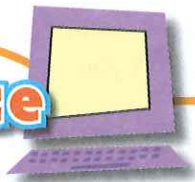
☐

5. גּוֹלֵל אור מִפְּנֵי חֹשֶׁךְ

☐

6. בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה, יְיָ, יוֹצֵר הַמְּאוֹרוֹת

## Clue to Cyberspace



Draw a sun above the words below that have to do with day or light.

Draw a crescent moon above the words that have to do with night or darkness.

אור חֹשֶׁךְ הַמַּאֲוִיר מְאוֹרֵי עֶרְבִים יוֹם בֶּקֶר

תָּאִיר לִילָה לְאוֹרוֹ הַמְּאוֹרוֹת הַכּוֹכָבִים עֶרֶב

Which *one* Hebrew word means the sun and the moon and stars? \_\_\_\_\_

Use this clue to score bonus points in the "Tile Tip" game in Level 2—

יוֹצֵר/מַעְרִיב—on your computer.







**“B**en! Ben! You’ve got to hear this,” shouted Batya as Ben entered the sanctuary with his religious school class.

Ben turned to look at Batya but before he could speak, she blurted out, “I’ve been chosen to lead my class in reciting **מְעַרִיב עֲרָבִים** at synagogue services on **עֶרֶב שַׁבָּת**. I promised to practice until I can read it as well as I read English!”

Making a promise or pledge to others is a serious commitment. Keeping the promise or pledge lets others know they can count on you.

Describe a promise that you recently made to someone else.

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What was the most challenging part of keeping the promise? Why?

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How did it feel when you succeeded?

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The Jewish people believe that there is only one God. The **שְׁמֵעַ** is the prayer in which we promise to be loyal to God. When we say the **שְׁמֵעַ**, we try our best to concentrate and recite it with all our heart. 🍷

## Our Pledge of Allegiance to God

Thousands of years ago, people believed that there were many gods. They believed that different gods ruled over different parts of nature—one over the sun, another over the moon, yet another over the sea.

The Bible teaches that there is only one God. Jewish tradition teaches that God rules over the world, loves **שְׁלוֹם** and **צֶדֶק** (justice), and cares about all people and all creation. The **שְׁמַע** is the Jewish people's pledge of allegiance to God.

The words of the **שְׁמַע** come from Deuteronomy, the fifth and final book of the Torah. They became part of our prayer service about two thousand years ago. Traditionally, many Jews say the **שְׁמַע** at least twice a day—during the morning and evening prayer services. Many also say it before going to bed at night and for strength when they are sad.

Practice reading the **שְׁמַע**.

**שְׁמַע יִשְׂרָאֵל: יְיָ אֱלֹהֵינוּ, יְיָ אֶחָד.**

*Hear O Israel: Adonai is our God, Adonai is One.*

The **שְׁמַע** can be recited standing or sitting. Some people recite it with their eyes closed or covered with their hand. This helps them concentrate on the prayer's words of faith and the pledge to be loyal to God.



**שְׁמַע יִשְׂרָאֵל**





## Shh, Say It Softly, Please

In many congregations, the line immediately following the שְׁמַע is said quietly.

בְּרוּךְ שֵׁם כְּבוֹד מַלְכוּתוֹ לְעוֹלָם וָעֶד.

*Blessed is the name of God's glorious kingdom forever and ever.*

Unlike the words of the שְׁמַע itself, these words are not from the Bible. They were first recited in the Temple in ancient Jerusalem.

Practice reading these two lines aloud. Read the first line in a regular voice and the second line in a soft voice:



1. שְׁמַע יִשְׂרָאֵל: יְיָ אֱלֹהֵינוּ, יְיָ אֶחָד.

2. בְּרוּךְ שֵׁם כְּבוֹד מַלְכוּתוֹ לְעוֹלָם וָעֶד.

Why do we say the words following the שְׁמַע in a soft voice?

The ancient rabbis tell a midrash, a story based on the teachings of the Bible, to explain why. The midrash says that when our patriarch Jacob, also known as Israel, was dying, his sons said the words of the שְׁמַע to let their father know that they would be loyal to God. Jacob was so pleased that he responded, "Blessed is the name of God's glorious kingdom forever and ever." Because he was old and weak, he spoke the words very quietly. And now, so do we.



### Word Sleuth

Draw a line to connect each word or phrase to its English meaning. Circle the Hebrew word for which no English meaning is listed.

forever and ever

blessed

God's kingdom

name

\_\_\_\_\_

מַלְכוּתוֹ

שֵׁם

לְעוֹלָם וָעֶד

כְּבוֹד

בְּרוּךְ

Now use the translation of the line following the שְׁמַע (at the top of this page) to discover the meaning of the new word. Write its meaning on the line above.



## Prayer Words

Practice reading these words from the שמע.

hear	שמע
Israel	ישראל
our God	אלהינו
one	אחד

## Another Name

Write the English equivalent next to each Hebrew word. Then copy the numbered letters to find the missing name below.

_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	1. יי
				1		2. ישראל
_____	2	_____	_____	_____	6	3. אלהינו
_____		3	_____	_____	_____	4. שמע
_____	_____	4	_____	_____	_____	5. אחד
_____	_____	5	_____	_____	_____	

Another name for the Jewish people:

the Children of \_\_\_\_\_

1 2 3 4 5 6



## At the Root

The word מַלְכוּתוֹ is built on the root מלכ. Words with the root מלכ have **king** or **ruler** as part of their meaning.

Read aloud the five words around the crown. Then circle the three root letters in each word.



Which three letters appear in each word? (Reminder: כ and כּ are family letters and כ looks like this at the end of a word: ך) \_\_\_\_\_



## Reading Rounds

In lines 1–4 the dot for וֹ and וּ identifies the letter *and* the vowel  . In lines 4–5, remember to read ך at the end of each word as ח  .

1. עֲשֹׂר קֹדֶשׁ נְחֻשֶׁת נִשְׂא קִדְשִׁים
2. וְשֹׁשֶׁן עֲשֹׂהוּ מִשָּׁה לְלִבֶּשׁ חֹשֶׁף
3. שְׁלֹשׁ לְשִׁבְעַת תִּטֵּשׁ וַיַּחֲבֹשׁ עֶשֶׂק
4. שְׁמִיחַ יִשְׁבֶּת שֹׁבֵר וַיַּחֲשֹׁף חֶשֶׁךְ
5. הַמְזִיבָה פּוֹתֵחַ מְטִיבָה אוֹרֵחַ לְשִׁבָּה



## Root Roundup

Read each line. Find and circle the words built on the roots listed in the first row of the chart. Some roots appear more than once. Check the chart to make sure that you find them all!

root	ברכ	קדש	שלם	זכר	שמע	אכל	מלכ	ערב
meaning	praise, bless	holy, set apart	wholeness	remember	hear	eat	rule, king	evening, mixed
# times root appears	3	1	1	2	2	1	3	2

1. אֲשֶׁר קִדְּשָׁנוּ בְּמִצּוֹתָיו

2. בָּרוּךְ אַתָּה יְיָ הַמַּעֲרִיב עֲרָבִים

3. שָׁלוֹם עָלֵיכֶם מִלְּאֲכֵי הַשָּׂרִת

4. בָּרְכוּ אֶת-יְיָ הַמְּבָרֵךְ

5. זָכוֹן לַמַּעֲשֵׂה בְּרֵאשִׁית

6. מִמֶּלֶךְ מַלְכֵי הַמַּלְכִּים

7. זָכַר לִיצִיאַת מִצְרַיִם

8. שָׁמַע יִשְׂרָאֵל יְיָ אֱלֹהֵינוּ

9. וְצָוָנוּ עַל אֲכִילַת מָרוֹר

10. לְשִׁמְעַ קוֹל שׁוֹפָר



לְשִׁמְעַ קוֹל שׁוֹפָר



## Language Link

The phrase **כָּלֵל יִשְׂרָאֵל** means **the entire Jewish people**. It includes every single Jew—Jews who like latkes and Jews who like pizza, Jews who live in Toronto and Jews who live in Jerusalem, Jews who play piano and Jews who play soccer. It tells us that we are one people, all of us, together.

As **כָּלֵל יִשְׂרָאֵל**, we are taught to celebrate our many shared traditions, to be respectful of our differences, and to work together on behalf of our community. We attend worship services, organize coat drives for the poor, recycle newspapers, and conduct communal Passover seders.

Put a check mark next to the activities and places that help you feel like a member of **כָּלֵל יִשְׂרָאֵל**.

\_\_\_\_\_ Shabbat prayer services    \_\_\_\_\_ religious school    \_\_\_\_\_ a trip to Israel

\_\_\_\_\_ a food drive    \_\_\_\_\_ Purim carnival    \_\_\_\_\_ High Holy Day services

\_\_\_\_\_ Jewish camp    \_\_\_\_\_ Israel Independence Day celebration

\_\_\_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_



**כָּלֵל יִשְׂרָאֵל**

## Putting It in ConTEXT

Let's look at the שמע again.

שמע ישראל: יהוה אלהינו, יהוה אחד.

When we see the שמע in a Torah scroll (Deuteronomy 6:4), we notice that the last letter of the first word—ע—and the last letter of the last word—ד—are larger than the other letters. Together the two letters spell עד, meaning **witness**. This teaches that each of us can be a witness to God when we follow God's commandments. You are an עד to God when you perform mitzvot such as attending services, visiting the sick, and lighting Shabbat candles.

Write an example of how you witnessed God this week.

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## Clue to Cyberspace



Look carefully at the strings of words below.

Find and circle the words that are part of the שמע.

1. המברך שמע לילה ישראל ליום אלהינו ברכוי בקראחד

2. ברוך מלך שם אשכנז מלכות אלתלעולם לארץ יוצר ועד

Which word is also a number? \_\_\_\_\_

Use this clue to score bonus points in the "Balloon Float" game in Level 3— שמע—on your computer.







It was **עֶרֶב שַׁבָּת**. As Batya led her class in reciting **מִעֲרִיב עֶרְבִים** at synagogue services, her parents and grandparents beamed with pride.

When Batya or Ben has an important event—a concert performance, a tennis match, or a birthday—their family demonstrates their love by attending. Whenever Batya and Ben need help—solving a math problem, getting to piano lessons, or baking brownies—they can count on their family's love and support.

Describe one way that your family shows love for you.

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Describe something you do that shows love for your family.

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The **וְאֶהְבֶּתָּ** reminds us to show love for God by following God's commandments. The **וְאֶהְבֶּתָּ** comes right after the **שְׁמַע** in the **סְדוּר**. The words of both prayers come from the Torah—chapter 6 in Deuteronomy. 🇮🇱



We affix a **מְזוּזָה** (plural **מְזוּזוֹת**)—a small case containing a tiny scroll with the **שְׁמַע** and the **וְאֶהְבֶּתָּ**—on the doorposts of our house. It reminds us to observe God's **מִצְוֹת**.

Name two ways you can show love and respect for both God and other people. For example, you can give food to the needy.

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_



Practice reading the וְאַהֲבָתָהּ.

1. וְאַהֲבָתָהּ אֶת יְיָ אֱלֹהֶיךָ
2. בְּכָל-לִבְּךָ וּבְכָל-נַפְשְׁךָ וּבְכָל-מְאֹדְךָ.
3. וְהָיוּ הַדְּבָרִים הָאֵלֶּה, אֲשֶׁר אֲנִי מְצַוְךָ הַיּוֹם, עַל-לִבְּךָ.
4. וְשִׁנַּנְתָּם לְבָנֶיךָ, וְדִבַּרְתָּ בָם בְּשַׁבְתְּךָ בְּבֵיתְךָ,
5. וּבְלַכְתְּךָ בַּדֶּרֶךְ, וּבְשָׁכְבְּךָ וּבְקוּמְךָ.
6. וְקָשַׁרְתָּם לְאוֹת עַל-יָדְךָ, וְהָיוּ לְטָטְפֹת בֵּין עֵינֶיךָ.
7. וְכָתַבְתָּם עַל-מְזוֹזֹת בֵּיתְךָ וּבְשַׁעְרֶיךָ.

1. You shall love Adonai, your God,
2. with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your might.
3. Set these words, which I command you this day, upon your heart.
4. Teach them to your children, and speak of them when you are at home,
5. and when you go on your way, and when you lie down, and when you get up.
6. Bind them as a sign upon your hand and let them be symbols between your eyes.
7. Write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.

Our tradition teaches that we are commanded to love *and* to take the actions that demonstrate love. So, each מְצֻוָּה we do brings us closer to God and makes us more loving people.

Which מְצֻוָּה makes you feel closer to God or like a more loving person? Why?

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## I Can Learn!

Describe something you learned recently in a religious school class.

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The **וְאֶהְבֶּתָּ** not only teaches us to love God but also to love Jewish learning—**Talmud Torah**, **תְּלִמּוּד תּוֹרָה**. Reread lines 3–7 of the **וְאֶהְבֶּתָּ** in Hebrew and in English on page 33. Circle the Hebrew word that refers to the cases we affix to our doorposts. (*Hint:* They contain a scroll with the **שְׁמַע** and **וְאֶהְבֶּתָּ**.)

What do you most want to learn about Judaism? Why?

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How can **תְּלִמּוּד תּוֹרָה** help you become the person you want to grow up to be?

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The Talmud teaches that **תְּלִמּוּד תּוֹרָה** is equal to all the other **מִצְוֹת**:

**תְּלִמּוּד תּוֹרָה כְּנִגְדַּת כָּלֶם.**

*The study of Torah is equal to all [the mitzvot].*

Why is **תְּלִמּוּד תּוֹרָה** so important? One explanation is that studying **תּוֹרָה** helps us learn the other **מִצְוֹת** so that we can *do* them. Both the **שְׁמַע** and **וְאֶהְבֶּתָּ** are teachings from the Torah. So, when you say them you are doing two **מִצְוֹת**—praying *and* **תְּלִמּוּד תּוֹרָה**!



Jewish tradition teaches us to study **תּוֹרָה** with other Jews. Why do you think we are encouraged to study **תּוֹרָה** in community with others? What might you learn from others? What might you teach?

## Prayer Words

Practice reading these words from the וְאָהַבְתָּ.

you shall love	וְאָהַבְתָּ
your heart	לְבָבְךָ
your soul	נַפְשְׁךָ
mezuzot	מְזוּזוֹת
your house	בֵּיתְךָ

## Missing Link

Complete each prayer phrase with the missing Hebrew word.

1. אַתָּה יְיָ אֱלֹהֶיךָ \_\_\_\_\_ (you shall love)
2. כָּל \_\_\_\_\_ (your heart)
3. וְכָל \_\_\_\_\_ (your soul)
4. וְכִתְבָתָם עַל \_\_\_\_\_ (mezuzot)
5. וּבִשְׁעָרֶיךָ \_\_\_\_\_ (your house)

## Remember and Do!

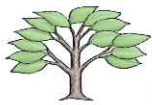
After reciting the וְאָהַבְתָּ some congregations add these verses from the Torah (Numbers 15:40–41).



1. לִמְעַן תִּזְכְּרוּ וַעֲשִׂיתֶם אֶת-כָּל-מִצְוֹתַי
2. וְהִייתֶם קְדוֹשִׁים לֵאלֹהֵיכֶם.
3. אֲנִי יְיָ אֱלֹהֵיכֶם אֲשֶׁר הוֹצֵאתִי אֶתְכֶם מֵאֶרֶץ מִצְרַיִם
4. לִהְיוֹת לָכֶם לֵאלֹהִים. אֲנִי יְיָ אֱלֹהֵיכֶם.

1. That you will remember and do all my commandments
2. and be holy to your God.
3. I am Adonai your God who brought you out of the land of Egypt
4. to be your God. I am Adonai your God.





## At the Root

The theme of the **וְאָהֲבָה** is our love for God. Below are the names of three prayers that speak of the love between God and the Jewish people. Can you find the root letters that are the same in each name?

Write the letters here. \_\_\_\_\_

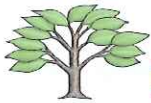
**וְאָהֲבָה רַבָּה    אֲהַבַת עוֹלָם    וְאָהֲבָה**

Words built on the root **אהב** have **love** as part of their meaning.

Draw a heart around the three Hebrew words below that are built on the root **אהב**. Then circle their three root letters.

**וְאָהֲבָה    אֲבֹת    אֲהַבַת    אֲבָרָהִם    וְאָהֲבָה**

*Bonus:* Underline the name of the person in the Torah who was the first Jew.



## Root Match

Connect the root in the middle column to its matching Hebrew word on the right and the English meaning on the left.

remember

**אהב**

**זָכַרְוֶן**

eat

**מלכ**

**לִשְׁמַע**

hear

**אכל**

**וְאָהֲבָה**

love

**שמע**

**אֲכִילַת**

rule

**זכר**

**מְלָכוֹת**

## Putting It in ConTEXT

Jewish tradition teaches that the love between God and the Jewish people is so great that it is as if they married each other at Mount Sinai. God was the groom, the Jewish people the bride, and the Torah the marriage contract, or *ketubah*. The Song of Songs, a scroll in the Bible thought to have been written by King Solomon, tells the love story between God and the Jewish people. It teaches that God spoke to us, saying:

... הַשְׁמִיעֵנִי אֶת-קוֹלְךָ  
כִּי-קוֹלְךָ עָרֵב וּמְרִאִיךָ נָאוֹה.

... *Let me hear your voice*

*For your voice is sweet and your image is beautiful (Song of Songs 2:14).*

List three qualities you admire in people you love.

1. \_\_\_\_\_ 2. \_\_\_\_\_ 3. \_\_\_\_\_

Why did you choose those qualities? \_\_\_\_\_

## Take Action

Turn to page 33 and read the **וְאַהֲבָה** in both Hebrew and English. Look for the ways we are told we can show our love for God. Copy the one that means the most to you. Explain your choice.

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## Yours Truly

The word בֵּיתְךָ means "your house." It is made up of two parts:

בֵּית means "house."

ךָ is an ending that means "you" or "your."

Many words in the וְאַהֲבָתְךָ end with ךָּ.

Read the first three lines of the וְאַהֲבָתְךָ below and circle each word with the ending ךָּ.

1. וְאַהֲבָתְךָ אֶת יְיָ אֱלֹהֶיךָ
2. בְּכָל-לְבָבְךָ וּבְכָל-נַפְשְׁךָ וּבְכָל-מְאֹדְךָ.
3. וְהָיוּ הַדְּבָרִים הָאֵלֶּה, אֲשֶׁר אֲנֹכִי מְצַוְךָ הַיּוֹם, עַל-לְבָבְךָ.

How many words did you circle? \_\_\_\_\_

What does the ending ךָּ mean? \_\_\_\_\_

Whom is the prayer addressing? \_\_\_\_\_

## Language Link

The word בֵּית describes many kinds of buildings. Read the Hebrew phrases below. Then, using the English clue, match each Hebrew phrase to its appropriate picture.

Where prayer services are held

בֵּית-כְּנֶסֶת



Where teachers work

בֵּית-סֵפֶר



Home of the U.S. President

הַבַּיִת הַלָּבָן



Where doctors work

בֵּית-חֹלִיִּים





## Siddur Challenge

Write the number of each Hebrew word next to the matching English word. You will have four Hebrew words left. Put those remaining words in order to form a siddur phrase.



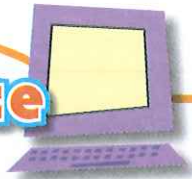
\_\_\_\_\_ ruler, king      \_\_\_\_\_ you shall love      \_\_\_\_\_ darkness

\_\_\_\_\_ your house      \_\_\_\_\_ the stars      \_\_\_\_\_ one

\_\_\_\_\_ 

Write the name of the prayer in which you will find this phrase. \_\_\_\_\_

## Clue to Cyberspace



Our tradition teaches that our actions can bring us closer to God. Look back at the English translation of the וְאַהֲבָתְךָ on page 33. Then circle each “action” word below.

1. וְאַהֲבָתְךָ אֵת יְיָ אֱלֹהֶיךָ

2. וְשִׁנַּנְתָּם לְבִנְיָהּ וְדִבַּרְתָּ בָּם בְּשַׁבְתְּךָ בְּבֵיתְךָ

3. וּבִלְכֻתְךָ בְּדֶרֶךְ, וּבִשְׁכֻבְךָ וּבִקְוִמְךָ

4. וּקְשִׁרְתָּם לְאוֹת עַל-יָדְךָ

5. וּכְתַבְתָּם עַל-מְזוֹזוֹת בֵּיתְךָ

Which word in line 5 above means “your house”? \_\_\_\_\_

Use this clue to score bonus points in the “Carnival Duck!” game in Level 4—  
וְאַהֲבָתְךָ—on your computer.





**O**n Sunday Ben and Batya rode their bikes to religious school. While racing downhill, Ben's front wheel brushed against Batya's back wheel. In a flash, Ben short stopped, did a hand spring off the handle bars, then landed on his feet. "It was awesome. Not a scratch on me—a *miracle!*" he told friends. Describe something that has happened to you that seemed like a miracle.

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How did you feel? Why? \_\_\_\_\_

The Bible teaches that God freed the Israelites from slavery in Egypt and parted the Sea of Reeds so that they could cross to safety. The parting of the waters was a miracle to the Israelites. In gratitude, they sang a song of praise to God. They sang **מִי כְּמֹכָה**, "Who is like You?" Today we express gratitude for our freedom by reciting the **מִי כְּמֹכָה** prayer. 🌈

Practice reading the **מִי כְּמֹכָה**.



1. מִי-כְּמֹכָה בְּאֵלִים, יי?
2. מִי כְּמֹכָה, נְאֻדָּר בְּקֻדֶּשׁ,
3. נוֹרָא תְהִלָּת, עֲשֵׂה פֶלֶא?

1. Who is like You among the gods [that other nations worship], Adonai?
2. Who is like You, majestic in holiness,
3. Awesome in splendor, doing wonders?

Practice reading these two additional verses of the **מִי כַמֹּכָה** that we read in the morning service.

4. שִׁירָה חֲדָשָׁה שָׁבְחוּ גְאוּלִּים לְשִׁמְךָ עַל שְׁפַת הַיָּם.

5. יַחַד כָּלָם הוֹדוּ וְהִמְלִיכוּ, וְאָמְרוּ,

6. יי יִמְלֹךְ לְעוֹלָם וָעֶד.

4. At the shore of the sea, the redeemed [Israelites] sang a new song of praise for You.

5. Together they acclaimed Your sovereignty, saying,

6. "Adonai will rule forever."

7. צוּר יִשְׂרָאֵל, קוּמָה בְּעֶזְרֶת יִשְׂרָאֵל.

8. וּפְדֵה כְּנָאֲמֶךָ יְהוּדָה וְיִשְׂרָאֵל.

9. גְּאֻלָּנוּ, יי צְבָאוֹת שְׁמוֹ, קְדוֹשׁ יִשְׂרָאֵל.

10. בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה, יי, גֹּאֲלֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל.

7. Rock of Israel, rise to the defense of Israel.

8. Keep your promise to redeem Judah and Israel.

9. Our Redeemer, Adonai Tz'va'ot is Your name, the Holy One of Israel.

10. Praised are You, Adonai, Redeemer of Israel.

## The Mitzvah of פְּדִיּוֹן שְׁבוּיִים

Our tradition teaches that, as we were freed from slavery in Egypt, so we must help free others. We call this mitzvah פְּדִיּוֹן שְׁבוּיִים (Redeeming Captives).



It is not easy to free people who are oppressed. So we must work with others in our community to perform the mitzvah of פְּדִיּוֹן שְׁבוּיִים.

Together we can collect צְדָקָה, contact politicians, and participate in demonstrations to help those who suffer. Name something you can do to help people who suffer.



## Prayer Words

Practice reading these words from the **מִי כְּמֹכָה** prayer.

who is like You

**מִי כְּמֹכָה**

among the gods  
(that other nations worship)

**בְּאֵלִים**

in holiness

**בְּקֹדֶשׁ**

splendor, praises

**תְּהִלָּת**

wonder(s)

**פִּלְא**

## Word Search

Find and circle the five Hebrew words in the grid below. Look across and down. Then write the English meaning below each Hebrew word.

**מִי כְּמֹכָה**

**תְּהִלָּת**

**בְּאֵלִים**

**פִּלְא**

**בְּקֹדֶשׁ**

\_\_\_\_\_

מ	ם	ל	א	ב	ת
י	ב	א	ל	פ	ה
כ	צ	ת	ש	ט	ל
מ	ה	ק	ד	ר	ת
כ	ט	ח	ג	ע	ר
ה	ס	ש	ד	ק	ב

## Putting It in Context

Below is a page from chapter 15 in the Book of Exodus. It is part of the song the Israelites sang after crossing the Sea of Reeds. The Torah says that the waters formed a wall to the right and left and the Israelites crossed on dry land. In the Torah the words of the song are laid out to look like a brick wall.

*Be a detective:* Find and read the twelve words of the **מִי כְמֹכָה** below.

*Be a super detective:* Find and read the verse that has the Hebrew words for "Adonai" and "will rule" and the Hebrew phrase for "forever and ever."

- 9 אָמַר  
אֹיֵב אֶרְכֶּה אֲשִׁיג  
אֶחָלֶק שָׁלָל תִּמְלֹאמוּ  
נַפְשִׁי אֶרְיֹק חֲרָבִי תִּוְרִישְׁמוּ יָדַי: נִשְׁפָּתָהּ  
בְּרוּחֶךָ כִּסְמוּ יָם  
צָלְלוּ כַּעֲפֹרֶת בְּמַיִם  
אֲדִירִים: מִי־כְמֹכָה בָּאֵלִם יְהוָה  
מִי  
כְּמֹכָה נֶאֱדָר בְּקֹדֶשׁ  
נִזְרָא תִהְלֹת עֲשֵׂה-  
פָּלֵא: נָטִיתָ יְמִינְךָ תִּבְלַעְמוּ אֶרֶץ: נָחִיתָ  
בַּחֲסִידֶךָ עִם-נוֹי גָּאֻלָּתָהּ  
קֹדֶשְׁךָ: שָׁמְעוּ עַמִּים יִרְגָּזוּן  
חֵיל  
אֲחוֹי יִשְׁבִּי פִלִּשְׁתִּי: אֲזַנְבְּהֵלוֹ אֶלּוּפֵי  
טו  
אֲדוֹם אֵילֵי מוֹאָב יֶאֱחָזְמוּ רָעַד  
נִמְנוּ  
כָּל יִשְׁבִּי כְנָעַן: תִּפֹּל עֲלֵיהֶם אֵימָתָהּ  
16  
וּפִיחַד בְּגִדְלֵי זָרוּעֶיךָ יִדְמֻ כְּאַבֵּן  
עֵד-  
יַעֲבֹר עִמָּךְ יְהוָה  
עֵד-יַעֲבֹר עִם-נוֹ  
קִנִּיתָ: תִּבְאֹמוּ וְתִשְׁלַעְמוּ בְּהַר נַחֲלָתְךָ  
מָכֹן  
לְשִׁבְתֶּךָ פָּעֵלְתָהּ יְהוָה  
מִקֹּדֶשׁ אֲדֹנֵי כּוֹנְנֵי  
18  
יְדִידָהּ: יְהוָה | יִמְלֹךְ לְעֹלָם וָעֶד:  
19



## At the Root

The word **בְּקֹדֶשׁ** is built on the root **קדש**.

Words built on the root **קדש** have **holy** as part of their meaning.

Write the three root letters in **בְּקֹדֶשׁ**. \_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_

What does **בְּקֹדֶשׁ** mean? \_\_\_\_\_

Read these words aloud. Then circle the three root letters in each word.

קֹדֶשׁ   נִקְדַּשׁ   הַקְדֹּשׁ   קִדְּשָׁנוּ   וַיִּקְדֹּשׁ

## Across the Sea

Cross the Sea of Reeds in just five steps! Start at the top row and trace a shortcut by finding the Hebrew for the five English words or phrases below. Move down one line at a time.

1. who is like You
2. among the gods
3. in holiness
4. splendor
5. wonder(s)

1.   הַקְדֹּשׁ   בְּרוּךְ   מִי כְמוֹכָה   נֶאֱדָר

2.   בְּעֶזְרָת   עֲשֵׂה   בְּאֵלִם   עֶרְבִים

3.   בְּקֹדֶשׁ   חֹשֶׁךְ   וְאֶהְבֵּת   אֹר

4.   יִמְלֹךְ   תְּהִלָּת   עֲבָאוֹת   לְשִׁמָּה

5.   וּפְדָה   גֹּאֲל   פֶּלֶא   הֵיִם



## Language Link

The word פלא ("wonder") not only appears in the מִי כְּמִכָּה, it is also used in everyday Hebrew. Below are a few examples.

wonderful! fantastic!	נִפְּלָא
wonders	נִפְּלָאוֹת
cell phone	פִּלָּאפֹן

Help Ben tell his friend Danny about his biking experience by completing these sentences using the appropriate Hebrew words from the list above.

Ben called Danny's \_\_\_\_\_. "My front wheel brushed against Batya's back wheel," Ben said. "So I short stopped and did a hand spring off the handle bars. I landed on my feet without a scratch. It was \_\_\_\_\_, one of the most awesome \_\_\_\_\_ of my life!"

## Ring, Write, and Read!

Draw a circle around one word on each line that is built on a different root than the others. Copy the circled words in the correct order on the lines below. Read aloud what you have written. Write the matching line number from the prayer on page 41. \_\_\_\_\_

1. קְדוּשׁ הַקְדוּשׁ צוּר קְדִישְׁנוּ וַיְקַדֵּשׁ
2. וְאַהֲבַת אֲהָבָה אוֹהֵב יִשְׂרָאֵל אֲהָבַת
3. הַמְּבָרֵךְ קוֹמָה בְּרוּךְ בְּרָכוּ בְּרוּכִים
4. בְּעֶזְרַת מֶלֶךְ מַלְכָּה מַלְכוּת יְמֶלֶךְ
5. זְכוֹרֹן זָכַר וְנִזְכִּיר יִשְׂרָאֵל וְזָכוֹר

\_\_\_\_\_

## A Legend and a Miracle

According to legend, more than two thousand years ago, the Jewish leader Judah called out the first four words of the **מִי כְּמִכָּה בְּאֵלִים יִי** to rally the Jewish people to fight King Antiochus and regain their religious freedom. The first letter of each word became the freedom fighter's name—Maccabee.

Write the first letter of each Hebrew word in the spaces below.

**מִי כְּמִכָּה בְּאֵלִים יִי**

What word does this spell? \_\_\_\_\_

Some say it was a miracle that the small band of Maccabees defeated a great and powerful army. Which holiday celebrates their victory? \_\_\_\_\_

Do you think that the opening words of the **מִי כְּמִכָּה בְּאֵלִים יִי** were a good rallying cry for the Jews? Why or why not?

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## Hanukkah Light

Read the Hebrew words below. Write the number of the matching English word above each Hebrew word.



**יִי**



**תְּהִלָּת**



**בְּקֹדֶשׁ**



**מִי כְּמִכָּה**



**יִשְׂרָאֵל**



**נִפְלָא**



**בְּאֵלִים**



**פֶּלֶא**

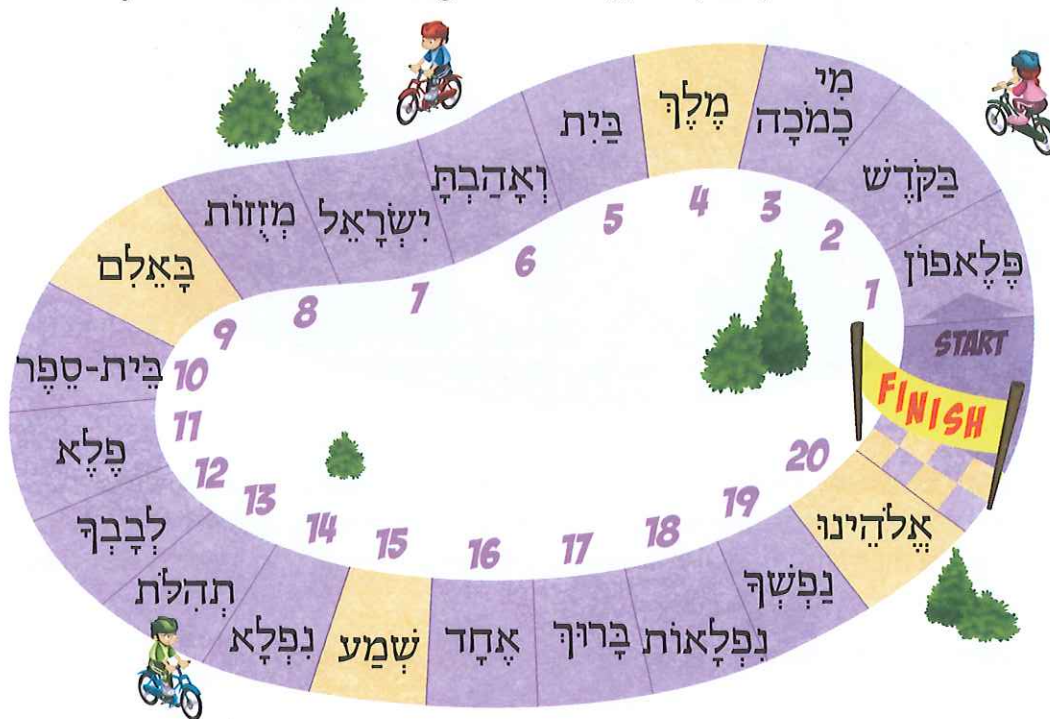


**מַכַּבִּי**

- |                          |                      |
|--------------------------|----------------------|
| 1. Maccabee              | 6. splendor, praises |
| 2. wonderful! fantastic! | 7. wonder(s)         |
| 3. Israel                | 8. Adonai            |
| 4. who is like you       | 9. in holiness       |
| 5. among the gods        |                      |

## Bicycle Race

Play with a partner. Begin at START, reading each word out loud. When you reach a word on a yellow space, give the meaning of the word in English. If you read incorrectly or do not know the English meaning, it is your partner's turn.



## Clue to Cyberspace



One word on each line is built on a different root from the other two words. Circle that word, then copy it in the blank space below. Read the sentence you have written.

1. מִי קְדוֹשׁ קְדוֹשׁ 3. אֶהְבֶּתָּ נֶאֱדָר וְאֶהְבֶּתָּ

2. גְּאוּלָּיִם כְּמִכָּה גְּאֵלָנוּ 4. יִמְלֹךְ מֶלֶךְ בִּקְדָּשׁ

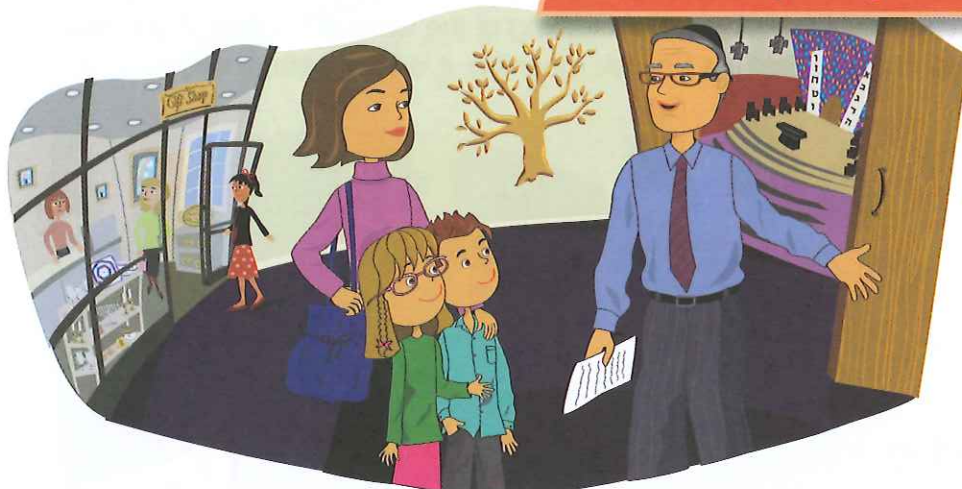
1. \_\_\_\_\_ 2. \_\_\_\_\_ 3. \_\_\_\_\_ 4. \_\_\_\_\_

Which word above is the name of a prayer recited at the Shabbat table? \_\_\_\_\_

Use this clue to score bonus points in the "Tile Tip" game in Lesson 5—  
מִי כְּמִכָּה—on your computer.







**B**en and Batya love Rabbi Lando. He thinks they're terrific, too. When he was a young rabbi their mom was one of the first students he helped prepare to become a bat mitzvah. "I enjoyed working with your mother and I look forward to working with you," Rabbi Lando said.

Name someone who remembers your mom or dad as a child. \_\_\_\_\_

Do you think that knowing your family for so long helps that person feel close to you? Explain your answer. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Does it help you feel closer to that person? Explain your answer. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

The **אבות ואמהות** is the first blessing of the **עמידה**—the central prayer in every prayer service. Jews have recited the **עמידה** for more than 2,000 years.

The **אבות ואמהות** asks God to watch over us, protect us, and bless us, just as God took care of our fathers, or patriarchs (**אבות**)—Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob—and our mothers, or matriarchs (**אמהות**)— Sarah, Rebecca, Leah, and Rachel.

How do you feel knowing that the Jewish people's relationship with God goes back thousands of years to our ancestors in the Land of Israel? 🇮🇱



1. בָּרוּךְ אַתָּה, יי, אֱלֹהֵינוּ וְאֱלֹהֵי אֲבוֹתֵינוּ וְאִמּוֹתֵינוּ,
2. אֱלֹהֵי אַבְרָהָם, אֱלֹהֵי יִצְחָק, וְאֱלֹהֵי יַעֲקֹב, אֱלֹהֵי שָׂרָה,
3. אֱלֹהֵי רִבְקָה, אֱלֹהֵי רָחֵל וְאֱלֹהֵי לֵאָה.
4. הָאֵל הַגָּדוֹל, הַגִּבּוֹר, וְהַנּוֹרָא, אֵל עֲלִיוֹן.
5. גּוֹמֵל חֲסָדִים טוֹבִים, וְקוֹנֵה הַכֹּל,
6. וְזוֹכֵר חֲסִדֵי אָבוֹת וְאִמּוֹת,
7. וְיַמְבִּיא גּוֹאֵל/גְּאֻלָּה לְבָנֵי בְנֵיהֶם,
8. לְמַעַן שְׁמוֹ, בְּאַהֲבָה. מֶלֶךְ עוֹזֵר וּמוֹשִׁיעַ וּמִגֵּן.
9. בָּרוּךְ אַתָּה, יי, מִגֵּן אַבְרָהָם וּפִקֵּד/וְעֹזֶרֶת שָׂרָה.

1. Praised are You, Adonai, our God and God of our fathers and mothers,
2. God of Abraham, God of Isaac, and God of Jacob, God of Sarah,
3. God of Rebecca, God of Rachel and God of Leah.
4. The great, mighty, and awesome God, supreme God.
5. You do acts of loving-kindness and create everything
6. and remember the kindnesses of the fathers and mothers,
7. and You will bring a redeemer/redemption to their children's children
8. for the sake of Your name, and in love. Ruler, Helper, Rescuer, and Shield.
9. Praised are You, Adonai, Shield of Abraham and Protector/Helper of Sarah.

### Prayer Variations

Some congregations pray for God to bring a redeemer (גּוֹאֵל)—the Messiah—who will bring peace to the world, while other congregations pray for redemption (גְּאֻלָּה)—a state of peace and perfection in the world. But all Jews are alike in praying for a better and more peaceful world.

Some congregations express God's loyalty to Sarah by describing God as her Protector (וּפִקֵּד שָׂרָה). Others speak of God as Sarah's helper (וְעֹזֶרֶת שָׂרָה). In some congregations the blessing contains only the אָבוֹת, the fathers, and not the אִמּוֹת, the mothers.

## Prayer Words

Practice reading these words from the **אבות ואמהות** prayer.

mothers (matriarchs, ancestors)	<b>אִמּוֹת</b>	fathers (patriarchs, ancestors)	<b>אֲבוֹת</b>
our mothers	<b>אִמּוֹתֵינוּ</b>	our fathers	<b>אֲבוֹתֵינוּ</b>
Sarah	<b>שָׂרָה</b>	God of	<b>אֱלֹהֵי</b>
Rebecca	<b>רִבְקָה</b>	Abraham	<b>אַבְרָהָם</b>
Rachel	<b>רָחֵל</b>	Isaac	<b>יִצְחָק</b>
Leah	<b>לֵאָה</b>	Jacob	<b>יַעֲקֹב</b>



### Write and Read

Write the correct Hebrew word on each line below, then read the complete line.

1. בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה, יי, אֱלֹהֵינוּ וְאֱלֹהֵי \_\_\_\_\_ (our fathers)

! \_\_\_\_\_ (our mothers)

2. אֱלֹהֵי \_\_\_\_\_, (Abraham) אֱלֹהֵי \_\_\_\_\_, (Isaac)

וְאֱלֹהֵי \_\_\_\_\_ (Jacob)

3. אֱלֹהֵי \_\_\_\_\_, (Sarah) אֱלֹהֵי \_\_\_\_\_, (Rebecca)

אֱלֹהֵי \_\_\_\_\_, (Rachel) וְאֱלֹהֵי \_\_\_\_\_ (Leah)