

GRADE LEVEL: 2-5

ב"ה

LESSON 3:

RUTH

CHOOSING TORAH AND MITZVOT

Torah Content: The Story of Ruth

Theme: Ruth chose a life of Torah over riches. Just like Ruth, we can commit to new Mitzvot and choose Torah above all else.





Enduring Understandings

Ruth gave up the comforts of wealth and a pampered lifestyle to move to Israel. She knew that a life of Torah was better than anything else!

When B'nei Yisrael travelled in the desert for 40 years, they lived in huts and were protected by Hashem's clouds from the dangers and discomforts of the desert. We sit in the Sukkah to remind us of Hashem's **protection** when we travelled in the **desert**. The Sukkah reminds us of Hashem's constant protection over the Jewish people.

Ruth made a new commitment; She was going to fill her life with Torah and Mitzvot. We can be like Ruth, "What new mitzvah will you commit to doing?!"

When we have a dilemma; to choose between doing a mitzvah or doing something else, we can be like Ruth and choose the Mitzvah. The mitzvah is always the BEST choice and the best thing we can do.

LESSON OVERVIEW

Ruth decided to give up her pampered and privileged life as a Moavi princess to move to Israel where she would be faced with a lot of new challenges that she had never had to deal with before, including being poor. She knew that a life of Torah was worth more than wealth and comfort.

STUDENT LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

- ▶ Students will understand the story of Ruth.
- ▶ Students will understand that Ruth chose Torah & Mitzvot over her comfortable life as a princess.
- ▶ Students will demonstrate an understanding of the story of Ruth by sequencing items that connect to her journey and life story.
- ▶ Students will give value to Ruth's choices by discussing mitzvahs they choose to do.

KEY TERMS

- ▶ Peah



MASTER PREPARATION LIST

Activity 1: Ruth Video Game

General Class Setup:

- ▶ Facing projector

Items Needed:

- Projector + laptop + speakers (set up Ruth video game)
- Lottery tickets - 1 per student (cut out)
- 1" X 2" Scratch off stickers - 10 per student (place stickers over answers on the lottery tickets)
- Popsicle stick, coin or spoon to scratch lottery tickets

* Scratch cards labels are recommended, however, the activity can be done without them.

Activity 2: Sequencing Movement Game

General Class Setup:

- ▶ Set up the "Story sheets" with their corresponding stickers around the room.

Items Needed:

- "Story sheets," printed once
- Stickers, 1 set of stickers per student
- ▶ Empty plate sticker ("There is a hunger in Israel. People beg wealthy Elimelech for food.")



MASTER PREPARATION LIST

- ▶ Suitcase sticker (“Elimelech doesn’t want to share his food. He runs away to Moav with his wife Naomi and their 2 sons.”)
- ▶ Princess sticker (“Princesses of Moav, Ruth & Orpah, marry Elimelech & Naomi’s sons.”)
- ▶ Israel sticker (“After her husband and 2 sons pass away, Naomi decides to return to Israel.”)
- ▶ Superhero Ruth sticker (“Ruth insists on going to Israel with her mother-in-law Naomi. She chose Torah and Hashem over her wealthy princess life.”)
- ▶ Princess dressed like a pauper sticker (“In Israel, Ruth & Naomi were poor. Ruth visits Boaz’s field to gather food. Now she and Naomi will have food to eat.”)
- ▶ Ruth & Boaz wedding cake sticker (“Boaz is impressed that Ruth gave up her family & riches for Torah. He decides to marry her.”)
- ▶ King David sticker (“ In the future, Ruth & Baoz would have a special great grandson, King David!”)
- Optional: Use stampers instead of stickers
- Optional: post-it notes to place the stickers on
- Tape

Activity 3: Mitzvah Auction

General Class Setup:

- ▶ Set up a fancy table with auction gifts.

Items Needed:

- Raffle tickets
- Bags or buckets for raffle tickets (1 for each auction gift)
- Mitzvah tracker sheets
- Mitzvah auction gifts



MASTER PREPARATION LIST

You choose how much your budget gifts. We recommend \$1- \$5 per gift. Visit a dollar store and purchase items connected to the Mitzvot. You can give only one item or place a few items in nice packaging.

Here are suggestions. We've included a variety of ideas. Choose what works for you.

- Brachot: Candy in a cute jar, bag of candy, morning waffle kit with toppings, bubblegum machine.
- Shema card: Bedtime kit with travel toothbrush, mini toothpaste & other items, blanket, cute pillow.
- Modeh ani: Alarm clock
- Tzedakah: Wallet, purse, fanny pack
- Shabbat Candles: candlesticks, tea light holders
- Kosher: Snacks with kosher symbols, lunch box
- Kiddush & Challah: Kiddush cup, Challah
- Helping Mom: Growing towel, scented soaps, soap maker
- Kibbud Av v'aim/ serving parents coffee: Coffee mug, markers to decorate mug
- Hakaras Hatov: Stationary kit, Thank you cards, gratitude journal
- Ahavat Yisroel: Heart pillow, any item with a heart on it



SCHEDULE

15
minutes

Activity 1 Ruth Video Game

Students will watch the story of Ruth. When a character has a dilemma, the animation pauses and students guess which choice the character will make. They record their answers on scratch card-lottery tickets. The lottery tickets will be used in activity 4, at the mitzvah auction.

15
minutes

Activity 2 - Sequencing Movement Game

Items representing the Ruth story are scattered around the room. Students sequence the items to demonstrate their understanding of the story.

Students discover that they are just like Ruth! When faced with a choice, they often choose the Mitzvah!

20
minutes

Activity 3- Mitzvah Auction

Students commit to doing a new mitzvah. At an exciting auction, they bid for the mitzvah prizes of their choice.

ACTIVITY 1

Activity 1

Ruth Video Game

 15 MINUTES

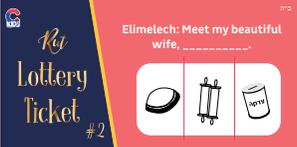
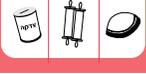
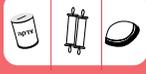
Materials & Preparation

You will need:

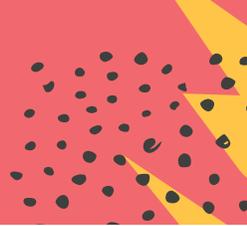
- Projector + laptop + speakers (set up Ruth video game)
- Lottery tickets - 1 per student (cut out)
- 1" X 2" Scratch off stickers - 10 per student (place stickers over answers on the lottery tickets)
- Popsicle stick, coin or spoon to scratch lottery tickets
- ▶ Scratch cards labels are recommended, however, the activity can be done without them.

HOW TO:

- 1 Introduce: "Today we'll be having an auction. At the auction, you'll win awesome prizes!"
- 2 Hand each student a lottery ticket.
- 3 Lottery tickets have the following grid. Scratch off stickers cover the answers.

 <p>Hi, my name is Elimelech. I live in Israel. I'm from the tribe of _____</p> 	 <p>Elimelech: Meet my beautiful wife, _____</p> 
 <p>If there's not enough food, will we go hungry?</p> 	 <p>My children haven't eaten in days! Can you spare some bread?</p> 
 <p>What happens next?</p> 	 <p>Orpah:</p> 
 <p>Rut:</p> 	 <p>Rut:</p> 
 <p>Boaz: I am Boaz, the owner of this field.</p> 	 <p>Rut:</p> 

ACTIVITY 1



4 Play the “video game” with the story of Ruth.

Explain: As we go through the story, we will see the characters in the game faced with dilemmas and they will need to make important choices! Your job will be to figure out which choice the characters will make! When there is a dilemma, it will pop up on the screen as questions with 3 multiple choice answers. You will have to examine the image on the screen, looking for clues that will help you guess what choice the characters will make. Your detective skills will help you discover the correct answer!

- a. For every question, scratch off Choice A, Choice B or Choice C on your lottery ticket.*
- b. Once you’ve scratched your answer you will see a picture icon. If the icon is a Torah, you got the answer correct and will earn a ticket.*
- c. You may only scratch off one answer per question. If you scratch off more than one answer, you will not earn any tickets for that question.*

Have students write their names on their lottery tickets and set them aside for the mitzvah auction. At the auction, students will earn one raffle ticket for every Torah they scratched off.

Variation: You can skip the scratch labels and have students circle the answers on the lottery card. If doing this variation, you’ll need to mix up the icons on the lottery ticket and create your own answer key.

ACTIVITY 2

Activity 2

Sequencing Movement Game

 15 MINUTES



Materials & Preparation

You will need:

- “Story sheets,” printed once
- Stickers, 1 set of stickers per student
- Optional: Use stampers instead of stickers
- Optional: post-it notes to place the stickers on
- Tape

Setup:

- ▶ Set up the “Story sheets” with their corresponding stickers around the room.

HOW TO

- 1 Pair up the students to work together. Explain how to play:

*8 sheets telling the story of Ruth are hanging around the room. Each sheet tells one part of the story. The sheets also have stickers connected to their section of the story. I challenge you to sequence the stickers, on your body, in 3 minutes! You can choose to sequence the stickers on your face, arms, shirt, shoes, back, hoodie... anywhere! **

**Instead of putting stickers directly on their body, students can first place the stickers on post-it notes, and then stick the post-it notes on their body.*

***Alternatively, purchase stampers that connect to the different parts of the story. Instead of using stickers, have students*

“stamp” the story on their face, arms or hands.

- 2 Have students run around the room and read all the story sheets. They should have a good idea of what sheet comes first, second etc. Then, have students place the stickers on their body, in the correct sequence.
- 3 Once the students are finished, have one set of partners retell the story according to their stickers sequence. The rest of the students should check their stickers to see if they put them in the correct order.
- 4 Discuss:

Ask: Can you describe Ruth and Orpah’s pampered princess lives? (Exquisite pastries, aged cheeses,

ACTIVITY 2



and fresh freshly baked bread... Hundreds of fancy dresses and expensive jewelry. Each day Ruth & Orpah could swim in one of the luxury pools in their families estates. They could snuggle up with a book at the ocean. Chores were not something to worry about, the maids would take care of it.)

Ask: *Why did Orpah return to the palace, while Ruth on the other hand, insisted on going to Israel?*

Orpah liked her princess life best. She would miss Naomi but she did not want to be poor.

Ruth wanted to live a Jewish life in Israel more than anything else, even if it meant giving up everything she had in Moav.

Ask: *Why did Ruth prefer a life with Torah over a wealthy comfortable life? Why would she give up everything she had for Torah?! Nothing is better than making the world a better place and doing Mitzvot, because that is our purpose. Mitzvot are the greatest riches. We are so lucky to have Torah that gives our lives so much meaning! We are so lucky to have a life full of Mitzvot!*

Ask students: *What would you do? Would you make the choice Ruth made?*

You may not realize it, but you kids are brave and courageous like Ruth. When you choose to do a Mitzvah, you are acting like Ruth.

5 Read the scenarios. Listen to the students' solutions.

- ▶ The dance rehearsal date was just announced. My mom looked at the calendar and it's on Passover night. It's a mitzvah to eat matzah and have a seder with my family.

My dance team is counting on me for a great show. It's the last practice. How can I miss it?

What would you do?

I can explain to my team and instructor how important Passover is to me. I will make sure to be at the Passover Seder because nothing is more important than doing a mitzvah and celebrating my Judaism. I wouldn't give up the Passover Seder for anything!

- ▶ I was a mothers helper and made \$100. Now I could buy the skateboard that I've been wanting for a while. My mom reminded me about the mitzvah of charity, giving 10% of what one earns to Tzedakah.

If I give the \$10 to charity, then I'll have to wait to buy the skateboard. I really want the skateboard, but isn't a mitzvah priceless!?

What would you do?

A Mitzvah is the best thing you can get, better than anything you could buy!

Ask: *Is the Mitzvah choice always the easiest? Although it might take a lot of strength or courage or commitment to choose the Mitzvah, it is the greatest thing we can do and is what makes our lives rich and happy.*

Activity 3

Mitzvah Auction

 15 MINUTES

HOW TO

- 1 Today, each of you is going to add the greatest thing to your life! You're going to buy mitzvot, because after all, mitzvot are the greatest thing we can have. Ruth did not grow up with mitzvot. Can you imagine how many changes she made in her life!? (She gave up her rich life and living in a palace. She stopped going out on Friday nights and began keeping and practicing Shabbat. She began eating only kosher foods. She filled her days with doing acts of kindness and charity.) Today, you will be just like Ruth and choose a new mitzvah to add to your life
- 2 Show the auction prizes. There are raffle buckets in front of each prize. The prizes represent different mitzvot. For example; candlesticks for lighting Shabbat candles, a cute money box for Tzedakah etc.
- 3 Give students a raffle ticket for every Torah icon they got on their lottery tickets. Have them look through the prizes and choose mitzvot they would like to sign up for. Students place their lottery tickets into the mitzvah prize (raffle buckets) of their choice.
- 4 Draw the raffle for each prize. If a student wins more than once, he gets the first prize he won.
- 5 Hand out the mitzvah tracker challenge sheet. When a student completes their tracker they can bring it in for a prize. Explain that just like Ruth, students have the courage, commitment and strength to add their new mitzvah to their lives.



Materials & Preparation

You will need:

- Raffle tickets
- Bags or buckets for raffle tickets (1 for each auction gift)
- Mitzvah tracker sheets
- Mitzvah auction gifts

Setup:

- ▶ Set up a fancy table with auction gifts



POST LESSON SOCIAL MEDIA POST

Picture: Students with their auction prizes.

Today at CKids Hebrew School, everyone is a winner, with the best treasure in the world: Torah and Mitzvot. Like Ruth, our students have the courage, commitment and strength to add their new Mitzvah to their lives.



TZIVOS HASHEM MISSION

Students complete the mitzvot they committed to doing in class. Next week students bring in their completed Mitzvah trackers for a prize.

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