

Bereshit Idea Guide, K-3rd grade

Parashat Vayeshev

Stories in the <i>Parasha</i>	Jewish Values
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jacob has 12 sons • Joseph's coat of many colors • Joseph is thrown into a pit, and then sold. • In an Egyptian jail, Joseph interprets the butler and baker's dreams 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jealousy / envy

Ideas to Spark Learning

Idea #1: Joseph, the movie

Watch the first 15 minutes of *Joseph and his Technicolor Dream Coat*. It is a great introduction of the story. We have the video for 7-day loan at the MJLC.

Idea #2: Marbling a coat of many colors

Marble paper using shaving cream, then cut out a coat like Joseph's. It is a bit messy, but great fun to do! Listen to soundtrack *Joseph and his Technicolor Dream Coat* while students are working.

Supplies needed:

- Liquid watercolor paint, at least 3 different colors
- Cans of unscented shaving cream
- Card stock
- Non-latex rubber gloves
- Plastic rulers
- Disposable plastic table cloths
- Popsicle sticks

Directions:

1. Cover the tables with disposable table cloths.
2. Spray a large dollop of shaving cream directly onto the table cloth. Spread out

the shaving cream so that the cream is about ¼ inch thick, and forms a rectangle approximately the same size as the piece of paper you want to marleize.

3. Squeeze a few drops of each of the liquid watercolor paints on top of the shaving cream. Using either a popsicle stick, or your finger, swirl the paint around into the shaving cream. Do not over-mix.
4. Take a sheet of card stock and lay it on top of your design, lightly tapping on the back of the paper. Lift the card stock (it will be covered with shaving cream) and place it, shaving cream side up, on the table. Use the plastic ruler as a squeegee and scrape off the shaving cream. The paper will dry in about 15 minutes.
5. You can repeat this one more time using the same shaving cream pile.

Idea #3: Stained Glass window collage with the 12 tribes

[To see the finished project, click here.](#)

Supplies needed:

- One copy per student of the emblems for each of the twelve tribes. [Click here to download the pdf.](#)
- Clear plastic page protectors, cut into 2 separate pages (you'll need one page per student)
- Mod Podge or Blickcrylic Gloss Polymer Medium, available at [Dick Blick stores](#)
- Torn pieces of colored tissue paper
- Brushes to use in glue
- ½ strips of black construction paper to create frames
- Scissors

Directions:

1. Cut out the 12 emblem circles.
2. Using the Gloss Polymer Medium, glue them to the page protector, face down. Occasionally, pick up a corner of the page and check to make sure the emblems are all facing the same direction.
3. Then glue down the tissue paper to create a "stained glass" effect. Let dry.
4. Flip the piece over and attach black strips around the art work to create a frame.

Idea #4: Exploring the Theme of Jealousy

Instead of being jealous of what someone else has, as Joseph's brothers were in this parashat, let's celebrate each other's different strengths. Celebrate individual's strengths by asking each student to share 1-2 things that s/he is really good at. Post these on one of the platforms described below. If you use Lino, you can post a picture of each student demonstrating his/her talent and add text to describe it. Discuss students responses with the following questions based in Bloom's Taxonomy:

1. (Remembering) Look at our chart. Tell me what kinds of talents our class has.
2. (Understanding & Applying) Can we organize our talents into any categories? Do we all have the same talents or different talents? Give examples.
3. (Analyzing) What would it be like if we *did* all have the same talents? Why is it important to recognize each other's different talents? How does appreciating our differences make us more or less jealous of others?
4. (Evaluating) What could Joseph's brothers have done differently when they felt jealous of Joseph?

Two possible platforms for sharing:

- Use **Lino** (available for free at <http://en.linoit.com/> or as an app on the iPhone, iPad, or Android-based tablet). Lino is a free, digital sticky note/sharing platform. You can add sticky notes with text, upload a file, and/or upload pictures. To save the canvas you create, sign up for an account. You can use the service without creating an account, but will not be able to save your work. Use a computer, projector, and screen to showcase what you have made and to facilitate the discussion.
- Create a **poster board** labeled "Celebrating Our Strengths" and ask students to use words and pictures to describe what they are good at. They can put their words/pictures on colored post-it notes and add them to the poster board for the class to see.

A Selection of Books for *Parashat Vayeshev*

Greengard, Alison. ***Joseph the Dreamer***. Oakland, CA: EKS, 2008.
The themes of family love, ambition, jealousy, betrayal, and reconciliation are found in this retelling of the Joseph story in the original Hebrew, with a simplified English translation. (Grades K-3)

Koralek, Jenny. ***The Coat of Many Colors***. Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 2004.
Retells the biblical story of Joseph and his father's gift in simple language. (Grades 1-2)

Polacco, Patricia. ***My Rotten Red-headed Older Brother***. New York, NY: Aladdin Paperbacks, 1994.
A wonderful story about a sister and brother who initially suffer pangs of jealousy, but eventually realize they are both special in their own way. (Grades K-3)

Williams, Marcia. ***Joseph and His Magnificent Coat of Many Colors***. Cambridge, MA: Candlewick, 1990.
Retells the Bible story in which Joseph's jealous brothers sell him into slavery in Egypt, where due to his ability to interpret dreams, he is made governor of the country. (Grades K-2)