



Welcoming the Stranger – A Story for the New Year

Welcoming the Stranger is an Elijah story for use at the beginning of the school year. While it is written for students in the 3rd through 6th grades, it can be used at other levels.

Ideas For Teachers

This story can be tied to different curriculum areas depending on the classroom curriculum. The curriculum may guide the selection of discussion questions. Four possible curriculum directions are:

- Building classroom community
- Prophets
- Holiday customs for the fall holidays
- Torah – Welcoming the Stranger (Genesis: 18; Abraham and the strangers).

Enduring Understanding

- Each person has the obligation to Welcome the Stranger and make the world a better place.

Possible Lesson Questions

- What can we do to make everyone comfortable in our classroom?
- What things do we do which make them uncomfortable?
- Is this Elijah story a true story? If it is not true, what can we learn from it?
- What do we do to make friends feel welcome in our home when they come to play?
- In Torah, how did Abraham welcome strangers to his tent?
- In this story, why do you think Elijah gave the children honey candy rather than popcorn or chocolate candy?

Alan J. Levin