



An Illustrated Maggid (Passover Storytelling)

Topic

A breakdown of the Passover story by verse, found in the book of *Shemot* (Exodus).

Grade Level(s)

5th to 7th

Goals for the Lesson/Activity

- Students will study one or more texts from the Passover story.
- Students will create an illustration or other creative representation of the text.
- When the illustrations or other representations are combined, the class will have a complete presentation of the Passover story.

Materials needed

- A *Tanakh* or Torah for each student or student group
- Project materials as desired: butcher paper roll, poster boards, construction paper, markers, props, etc.

Background for Teachers

The main text of the Passover story, the story of the exodus from Egypt, is found in the Torah, in the book of *Shemot/Exodus*. During the Passover Seder, we call the section where we tell the story the *Maggid* section.

Many of our students will be familiar with the basics of the story, but have likely not encountered the original text. This lesson is designed to give them the opportunity to engage in traditional text study and to interpret the Passover story for themselves.

Description of Activities

Option 1: Using the “Pieces of *Shemot*” source sheet as a guide, divide your students into groups. Each group studies one piece of text from the *Chumash/Tanakh* and illustrates it. When done, each group stands up in order and presents the story and their illustrations. You can display the text with their illustrations in order in your classroom or hallway, as a way to share the story of Passover with your community.



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Option 2: Using the “Pieces of *Shemot*” source sheet as a guide, divide your students into groups. Each group studies one piece of the text and finds a creative way to share it (rap, poster, artwork, skit, song). Consider sharing your work with one other class or with parents.

Differentiation Options

Knowing that students learn in a variety of ways and modalities, the following options are provided to adjust the above lesson to meet the unique needs of your learners.

For learners who need more assistance

- Give these students simpler or shorter versions of the text. You can also provide them with the summaries provided in our list.

For learners who need extension opportunities

- Give these students the longer or more complicated sections of text.



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Pieces of Shemot

This is a breakdown of the Passover story found in the book of *Shemot*, the book of Exodus.

1. Exodus 2: 3-4: Moses is placed in reed basket in the Nile—Miriam watches
2. Exodus 2:5-7: Pharaoh's daughter finds and saves Moses
3. Exodus 2: 11-12: Moses grows up, kills Egyptian task master
4. Exodus 2: 15: Moses flees from Pharaoh
5. Exodus 3: 1-6: Moses sees burning bush
6. Exodus 4:27-28: Moses and Aaron meet in desert
7. Exodus 4:29-31: Moses and Aaron talk to Israelites
8. Exodus 5: 1-2: Moses and Aaron appeal to Pharaoh
9. Exodus 5: 10-14: Taskmasters make life harder for slaves
10. Exodus 7:8-12: Aaron turns rod into snake for magicians
11. Exodus 7: 17-12:29: The Ten Plagues
12. Exodus 12: 34: Israelite slaves leave Egypt
13. Exodus 12:37: Israelites travel together in desert in a mixed multitude
14. Exodus 14: 21-22: Moses splits sea
15. Exodus 14:23-25: Egyptian army race after Israelites and are stuck in the sea
16. Exodus 15:20: Miriam's song