

Hebrew Through Movement
Tu Bishvat Lesson
Prepared by the Cleveland HTM Community of Practice, 2016

Review words

- ללכת
- לרוץ
- לקפוץ
- להסתובב
- להצביע אָל
- תפוח (if taught at Rosh Hashanah)
- על-יד
- Colors, if desired

New vocabulary

- עץ
- פרי

Preparations

- OPTIONAL: Draw a large tree on the board (or find a branch from a tree and secure it in the classroom)
- Place photos of trees around the room
- Obtain photos of fruit, real fruit or artificial fruit (check Joann's or Michael's) – if also reviewing colors, make sure to have fruits of different colors. [Note that a banana does not grow on a tree; don't choose it.]
- Fruit (like an apple) cut up into bite-size pieces for the students to bless and eat

The lesson

5 min **Do a review** with students, using the vocabulary above

5 min **Introduce the new vocabulary**
*Remember that if you say **העץ** you are referring to a specific tree you want them to approach, but if you say **עץ** you are referring to any tree in the room.*

Point to a tree and say **עץ**

Point to different trees in the room, one at a time, and say **עץ**

Then give other commands:

להצביע אל עץ
ללכת אל עץ
לרוץ אל עץ
לשים ראש על עץ

If your students can handle more complex commands consider ones like:

לקפוץ אל עץ על יד הדלת
להצביע על העץ על הלוח

Pick up an apple (real or otherwise) and say: פרי
Pick up other fruits, one at a time, and say: פרי

Continue with other commands:

להצביע אל פרי
ללכת אל פרי
לרוץ אל פרי

לקחת פרי
לקפוץ אל עץ
לשים פרי אל עץ

5 min

Integration of vocabulary:

If you wish to integrate colors with fruit:

להצביע על פרי בצבע אדום

Confirm the name of it by saying: תפוח

להצביע על פרי בצבע ירוק

Confirm the name of it by saying: תפוח

להצביע על פרי בצבע תפוז

Confirm by saying: כן

To reinforce the blessing for fruit that grows on trees:

Pick up a fruit and hold it next to a tree. Say:

כן או לא :
פרי העץ?

As you do these other commands, hold the fruit next to the object you mention and ask

כן או לא
פרי הדלת?

פרי החלון?
פרי הכסא?
פרי העץ?

Repeat the last question with a few different fruits,
held close to a few different trees.

Hand out the apple slices/bites, lead children in the
blessing over fruit-from-trees:

בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה יְיָ אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם,
בוֹרֵא פְּרֵי הָעֵץ.

Then let them eat!

Conclude your HTM session, then ask students in
English if they understood what the blessing is about.
How does Hebrew Through Movement help them
understand Jewish blessings?