

# Nature Walk Builds Community Collaboration

West Palm Beach, Florida

**WHAT:** A PJ Library® Author Collaborative Program between the Commission for Jewish Education (CJE) and the JCC, featuring Laurel Snyder and her PJ Library® book, *Good Night, Laila Tov*.

**WHERE:** State Park (public space)

**WHEN:** Sunday morning during religious school hours

**TARGET AUDIENCE:** Preschool aged children and their families

**HOW and WHY** was it special?

This successful family engagement program was a collaboration between two agencies (CJE and JCC) and fostered the relationship between the JCC and the surrounding synagogues. This was accomplished in a number of ways. First and foremost, the PJ Library professionals at the CJE were brought into the planning process from the beginning, working with the JCC in the author and book selection process. Key parent lay leaders were also involved from both agencies in the planning committee. Program details about the program were discussed with the author in an effort to assure her comfort level with the activities suggested. Local synagogues were consulted about the program timing as not to compete with Religious School but rather scheduled so that families with older siblings could attend both. Cross promotion (pre and post) of the program took place on social media for both agencies.



This program was designed in line with the story in *Good Night, Laila Tov*, engaging families in a nature walk. After an outdoor story time with the Laurel Snyder, discussing the Jewish values and nature, each family was given a

jar to collect their nature treasures.

Cell phones, per-

sonal cameras and sketch books were used to document what they found on the nature walk with Laurel Snyder. Sharing our discoveries, snack, singing Hebrew songs about nature and a book signing rounded out the morning experience. Proper data collection and follow up with families was also part of this collaborative effort.



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# Good Night, Laila Tov a Family Program

The JCC and the Commission for Jewish Education PJ Library® program invite your family to spend some quality time in nature! Come meet Laurel Snyder, the children's author of *Good Night, Laila Tov* and *Baxter, the Pig Who Wanted to be Kosher*. We will explore nature and our surroundings just as the family in *Good Night, Laila Tov* did. This program is for families with children age six and under.

Please bring a digital camera for your child to use and any Laurel Snyder books you may have at home to be autographed.

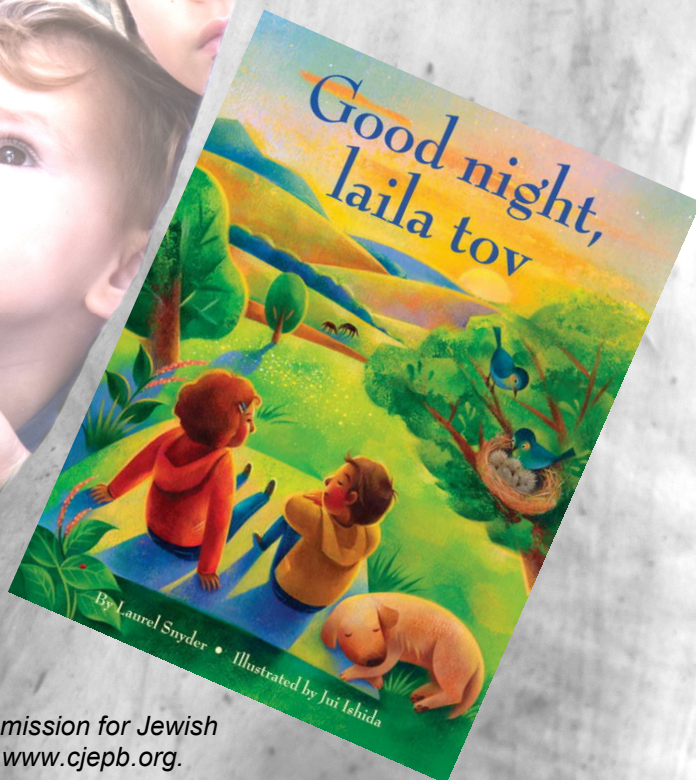
Sunday, January 27th  
MacArthur Beach State Park  
North Pavilion  
9:30-11:30 am  
\$18 per family  
(parking additional)

Register online:  
[www.jcconline.com](http://www.jcconline.com)  
or contact Rachel  
[RachelF@JCCOnline.com](mailto:RachelF@JCCOnline.com)  
or 561-712-5279  
for questions



JEWISH BEDTIME STORIES and SONGS

The PJ Library® in the Greater Palm Beaches is a program of the Commission for Jewish Education. For more information about CJE or PJ Library® please visit [www.cjepb.org](http://www.cjepb.org).



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