

2 Creative & Crafty Havdalah Programs



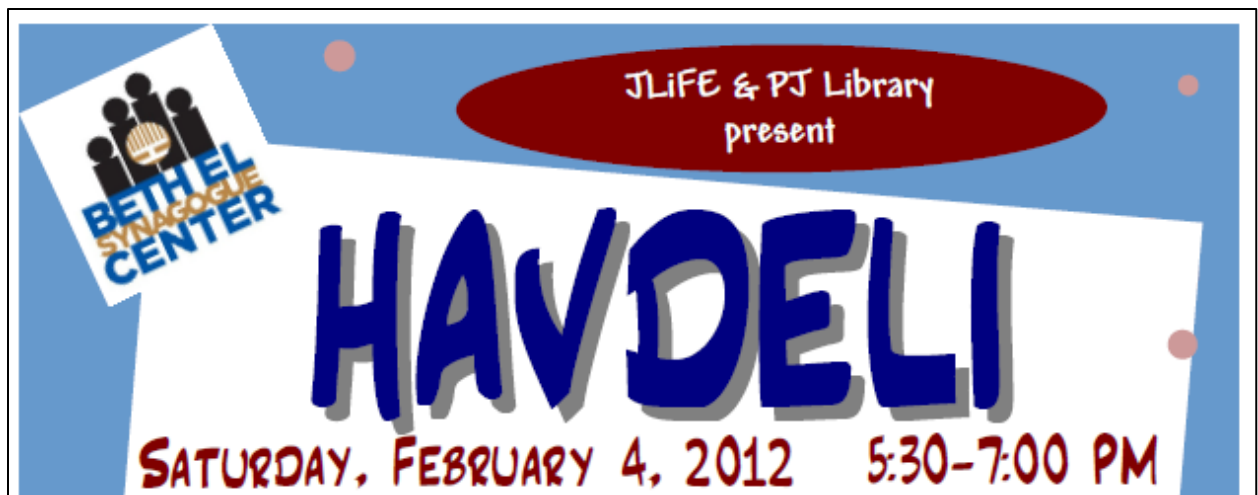
Beth El Synagogue Center
New Rochelle, NY




 **JLIFE, Jewish Living and Family Engagement,**
geared towards Kindergarten aged kids and younger
Presents

HAVDAIRY

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2012 5:30-7:00 PM

The poster features a blue background with a white paper-like shape in the center. On the left, there is a logo for Beth El Synagogue Center showing stylized figures. A dark red oval contains the text 'JLIFE, Jewish Living and Family Engagement, geared towards Kindergarten aged kids and younger Presents'. The word 'HAVDAIRY' is written in large, bold, blue letters with a drop shadow. At the bottom, the date and time are listed in a red, hand-drawn font.

 **JLIFE & PJ Library**
present

HAVDELI

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 2012 5:30-7:00 PM

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Havdairy

Beth El Synagogue Center
New Rochelle, NY

Last year we had a tremendously successful event entitled HavDeli. The young families arrived with their children dressed in their PJs and a deli meal was enjoyed by all, followed by a musical Havdalah service, Havdalah themed crafts and a PJ Library story concluded the evening. We received a lot of positive feedback from the families that had attended, but there were a number of people who expressed that a deli meal was sometimes a difficult meal choice for younger children. Keeping this in mind, as we planned the event for the following year, we decided to change the event from HavDeli to HavDairy. It was a roaring success!

Schedule of the event

5:30-6:00 Dairy Dinner--Macaroni and cheese, eggplant parmesan, pasta with marinara sauce on the side, garlic bread and regular bread and a festive salad made up the dairy menu.

6:00-6:10 Musical Havdalah Service—Everyone made a circle around the dance floor and each family received a Havdalah candle, foil lined around the bottom to account for dripping. The Hazzan led the Havdalah service along with a synagogue member who played the guitar. There were service sheets for each family so they could follow along and join in if they chose with the singing of the prayers. Someone walked around with the Besamim so that everybody would have the opportunity to smell the delicious scents if they wanted to. After Havdalah was complete, another person walked around with a vessel filled with “juice” (mostly water) in which the families extinguished their candles.

6:10-6:20 Dessert—Brownies a la mode with a Dixie cup of ice cream scooped out on top of a brownie (or next to it—whichever was preferred) was the dessert. We also served moon and star shaped cookies to incorporate the theme.

6:20-6:45 Arts and Crafts—All of the supplies were set up on small, kid-sized tables with chairs around them. This had been set up before the families arrived and were covered with table cloths so they were not distracting and inviting to the children. Each family made their very own Havdalah Box (similar to the book "The Shabbat Box"). Each family received a box that had a pre-printed label saying "Shavu a tov" and "Have a good week!" with our synagogue logo on it. Inside each box was a silver plastic kiddush cup, the Havdalah candle that they had just used in the service, and a sheet with the blessings on it.

Then we had, on different tables, items to decorate the boxes. This included the following: 3 large stars for the top of each box that were glued on, symbolizing the three stars you see in the sky, foam letter stickers (many families put their first and/or last names on them), smaller stars and, candle stickers, as well as other foam stickers, and dot markers. Many families took a great deal of time decorating their boxes.

On another table were tiny drawstring bags and a variety of spices, including cinnamon sticks, cloves, etc. to be placed inside the bags to make besamim bags. For the older children, there were medium sized foam stars with cloves to stick into the foam to make another type of besamim item. Upon completion, these objects were placed inside the boxes as well, so the families had everything they would need to do **Havdalah** at home.

A number of our nursery school teachers came to the event to help with the arts and crafts, both with the set-up and the execution. This was a huge help!

6:45-7:00 PJ Library Story Time—*Lights Out Shabbat*, by Sarene Shulimson, was then read to all of the children. Having just experienced Hurricane Sandy, which resulted in numerous power outages, this book was quite timely for our community.

Pricing

\$20 per family for those who pre-registered by a certain date

\$25 per family for those who registered after the date

Afterthoughts

The evening ended at 7:00. It was the perfect amount of time for our young families and the parents loved the fact that they had just experienced a wonderful community

Havdalah celebration; their kids were already fed, were dressed in their pajamas and were ready for bed. It was also nice because the event ended early and they had the whole night ahead of them if they wanted to go out.

What surprised us most about this event was the amount of time each family spent decorating their boxes. There was a lot of pride that went into their individual creations. While we allotted one box per family, some families took one box for each of their children, and we had extras to account for that.

The dairy menu was much more successful with this crowd of young families as compared to the deli menu, and we heard only positive reviews after the event. It will definitely be repeated next year!





JLiFE, Jewish Living and Family Engagement,
geared towards Kindergarten aged kids and younger
Presents

HAVDAIRY

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2012 5:30-7:00 PM

Havdalah (Hebrew, meaning 'separation') is a Jewish religious ceremony that marks the symbolic end of Shabbat and ushers in the new week. Shabbat ends on Saturday night after the appearance of three stars in the sky.

**\$20 PER FAMILY
BY NOVEMBER 1
OR \$25 PER FAMILY BY
NOVEMBER 6**

**REGISTER AT:
WWW.BETHELN.R.ORG/HAVDAIRY
FINAL DEADLINE IS
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 6**



*Come in your
pajamas
& bring your
teddy bear!*



Join us for a delicious Dairy DINNER,
a musical HAVDALAH service,
make your own HAVDALAH BOXES,
and a SNUGGLE STORY from PJ LIBRARY

We will be joining together for dinner and Havdalah with the participants of the Game Night/Camp-In, sponsored by the Family Initiatives Committee

For more information, contact Julie Rockowitz at jrockowitz@bethelnr.org or 914-235-2700, ext. 256 or Ronnie Becher at nursery@bethelnr.org or 914-235-2700, ext. 250.



JLiFE & PJ Library
present

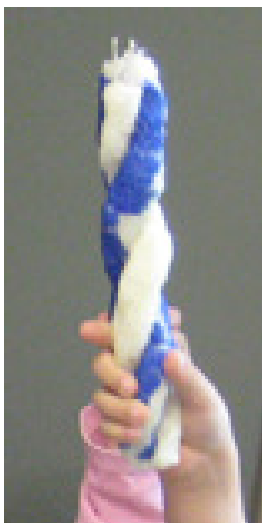
HAVDELI

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 2012 5:30-7:00 PM

Havdalah (Hebrew, meaning 'separation') is a Jewish religious ceremony that marks the symbolic end of Shabbat and ushers in the new week. Shabbat ends on Saturday night after the appearance of three stars in the sky.

**\$10 PER FAMILY
BY JANUARY 27
OR \$15 PER FAMILY AFTER**

**REGISTER AT:
WWW.BETHELN.R.ORG/HAVDELI
FINAL DEADLINE IS
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 1**



*Come in your
pajamas
& bring your
teddy bear!*

All families with children ages 6 or younger are invited to join us for a delicious DELI DINNER, a musical HAVDALAH service with instruments, make your own SPICE BOXES, and a SNUGGLE STORY from  PJ Library

We will be joining together for dinner and Havdalah with the participants of the Game Night/Camp-In, sponsored by Men's Club and the Family Initiatives Committee

For more information, contact Julie Rockowitz at jrockowitz@bethelnr.org or 914-235-2700, ext. 256 or Ronnie Becher at nursery@bethelnr.org or 914-235-2700, ext. 250.

Havdeli Havdalah

Collaboration with the Families Initiative Committee

(Beth El Synagogue Center in New Rochelle, New York)

Some history

In February, 2011 we had our first ever Havdeli event. The event was sponsored by our JLiFE and PJ Library groups. JLiFE (Jewish Living and Family Engagement) is an innovative Beth El program whose mission is to welcome and connect young families – both members and the as yet unaffiliated – to the beauty and joy of Judaism, and targets families with children 6 years of age and under. Tamar Remz was present, and read a PJ Library book (*Something from Nothing*). She told everybody about the magic of the program as it had just launched in our synagogue. Families who had older siblings were welcomed and everyone seemed to have a wonderful time. The children came dressed in their pajamas and the evening consisted of a deli dinner, followed by a musical Havdalah service, craft activities and a PJ Library story.

This year, we decided to join up with the Families Initiative Committee (FIC). This is a group who serves to enhance and enrich program offerings for families with at least one pre-Bar or Bat Mitzvah age child. They had done a Camp-In event last year and were scheduled to do the same event this year.

Two flyers were made up, targeting the different groups. One went out to the entire synagogue, while the other went out to our younger families.

The two groups decided to join forces for this evening and combined the two events. Everyone in attendance shared a deli dinner together as well as the Havdalah service. After that, the two groups had different programming options. Please see below:

The Event began on Saturday, February 4, 2011

It was divided into two parts:

1. Havdeli (5:30PM – 7:00PM), where children were told to come in their pajamas and bring their teddy bears.
2. Camp-In (5:30PM -9:00AM, Sunday morning) Families would pitch tents and spend the night in the synagogue. Because our synagogue was having the World Wide Wrap at 9:00 that Sunday morning, camp-in families were encouraged to attend this event as well.

Event Schedule

5:30 Deli Dinner—Large hoagies were served (sliced into wedges), along with assorted salads, pickles, etc. Cookies and fruit were served for dessert.

6:00 Musical Havdalah service– Everyone made a circle around the dance floor and each family received a havdalah candle. The Hazzan led the Havdalah service along with a synagogue member who played the guitar. There were service sheets for each family so they could follow along with the prayers. After havdalah, someone walked around with a vessel filled with “juice” (mostly water) in which the families extinguished their candles. The service concluded with the singing of *“Heiveinu Shalom Aleichem”*.

6:15 The two groups separated. The Havdeli families stayed for the craft activity (described below), and the Camp-In families went to set up their tents and played a bunch of family games. Details are below:

6:15 Make Your Own Spice Box (Besamim) and Decorate a Bag (JLife/PJ activity) – This art activity was geared primarily for younger kids (the JLife/PJ Library population), but older kids were able to make as well, if they so chose. The art activity was a Besamim bag and it was made one of two ways. The younger kids put cloves and cinnamon sticks into a mesh bag that had a built in drawstring. The older kids stuck cloves into a Styrofoam ball and then placed it into a mesh bag. The kids also decorated paper bags with stickers so they could take home their havdalah candle, service sheet and spice box (besamim).

6:15 Tent Set-Up and Game Night (Camp-In families)--Families set up their tents and then played a number of board games, etc.

6:45 Snuggle Story - The JLife/PJ Library families snuggled together and listened to a story from the PJ Library (*Once Upon A Shabbos*) read by Shery Rosenstein, PJ Library Coordinator. The Havdeli event finished at the conclusion of the story (7:00PM).

7:00 S'Mores at the camp fire (outside) for all Camp-In families

8:30 Those who slept over got ready for the night.

9:00 Lights Out - Kids who slept over went to bed.

9:00 Fun for the adults

Pricing

Havdeli--\$10/family for early bird rate, \$15/family after determined date

Camp-In—Additional \$25 per family

Afterthoughts

The event was a huge success for both groups and everyone in attendance had a wonderful time. When asked for feedback after the event, the biggest complaint was the deli meal. While many loved it, some of the children, as well as the vegetarians, had a problem with the food selection. We have given this a lot of thought and are probably doing a *Havdairy Havdalah* event next year instead.