

# Something from Nothing

## On Hanukkah



<b>Title:</b>	<b>PJ Library® Premiere Screening of Something from Nothing</b>
<b>Sub-Title:</b>	<b>Hanukkah, Energy Saving, and the Environment</b>
<b>Location/s:</b>	<b>Congregation Anshei Israel</b>
<b>Date / Time:</b>	<b>Sunday, December 18, 2011 @ 10:30am</b>
<b>PJ Community:</b>	<b>Southern Arizona</b>
<b>Program Professional:</b>	<b>Mary Ellen Loebel</b>
<b>Contact Information:</b>	<b>577.9393 ext 138 or <a href="mailto:pjlibrary@jfsa.org">pjlibrary@jfsa.org</a></b>

<b>Why?</b>	<p><b>x Outreach to New Families</b></p> <p><b>x Community Building / Programming for PJ Families</b></p>
<b>Who?</b>	<b>x Families</b>
<b>Where?</b>	<b>x Jewish Space</b>
<b>Frequency:</b>	<b>x One Time for now</b>
<b>Goals:</b>	Create an event for children and families around the film <i>Something from Nothing</i> , the Jewish theme of Ba'al Tashchit (Hebrew for recycle & reuse), how we can save energy and help the environment during the Hanukkah holiday.
<b>Activities:</b>	<p>So many activities!</p> <p>We had a pre-film activity to keep the kids entertained and engaged as we waited for all to arrive. They kids got to use their detective skills as they found items in the book that were on our "Find the Picture Card". We laminated two copies of <i>Something from Nothing</i> and hung them all around the room. The kids were given cards with pictures of mostly Jewish items that were in the book and asked to put the page number down when they found the item. For some kids this activity also engaged the parents. The kids brought the finished cards to us and we gave them a high five – next time we will have stickers!</p> <p>We listened with our EARS as Rabbi Eisen explained the concept of Ba'al Tashchit and illustrated with a story.</p> <p>The film <i>Something from Nothing</i> starring Mazel the Mouse was shown. The kids loved it!</p> <p>We snacked on a "left over" or "recycled" food item. We asked the kids what holiday do we eat the same food every day? What is that food? Matzah! One of the kids asked "We're having matzah at Hanukkah?" We told them it was left over from Pesach and we recycled it into a snack for them! Groans were heard all around! Then we said time for our Praline Matzah snack and had copies of the recipes for the families. Though there were originally groans nothing was left except crumbs!</p> <p>Our craft was also recycled. We told the kids that when my kids were their age I made Purim costumes for them from felt (I did-still have them) and that I had some material left over and that is how we are making these hannukoit – with the left over felt material. Kids and parents had a great time gluing the candles (some glued more candles than others) on the precut/sewn felt rectangles. They then used Velcro dots to put the buttons (the last thing that Grandpa made from the original blanket) as the flames and then the shamas was a "Mazel the Mouse felt button".</p>
<b>Publicity Efforts:</b>	<p>This event was advertised in:</p> <p>November and December PJ Library E-news</p> <p>PJ Library Face book page</p> <p>email invitation to all PJ Library families</p> <p>email reminder x 2 to all PJ Library families.</p> <p>email in the Federation Get Connected blast to all community members.</p> <p>E-invitations to committee members, Federation staff, &amp; Federation board.</p> <p>Flyer invitations distributed to: Temple Emanu-El preschool, K &amp; 1st, Congregation Anshei Israel ECE &amp; K, JCC ECE, THA K- first grade and all congregation age appropriate classes, posted in all congregations and the JCC Shalom Tucson cart.</p> <p>Posted to the various Tucson newspaper s</p>
<b>Attendance</b>	Approximately 65 kids, parents, and grandparents. The adults were totally engaged in helping their kids with the project!
<b>Co-Sponsor</b>	Congregation Anshei Israel
<b>Cost:</b>	Nothing

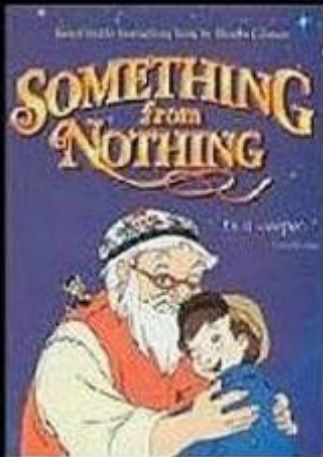
<p><b>What Made This Program a Success?</b></p>	<p>Something FREE for parents to do with their kids Jewishly on a Sunday morning a week before Hanukkah.</p> <p>Kids got to connect to and learn the Jewish name/mitzvah to what they and their families do all the time - "recycle" - as they learned the Jewish concept of Ba'al Taschit. The learned how Ba'al Taschit helps save energy and helps the environment as illustrated in the story.</p> <p>No new families signed up but one Mom had invited and rsvp'd for a new family however they were unable to come at the last minute. She said she is always looking for families to connect to PJ Library. Our parents are actively engaged in recruiting new PJ members.</p>
<p><b>Unexpected Outcomes:</b></p>	<p>Parents came up to me at the event and said how they loved the film and that the craft took into consideration both the film and the recycle and reuse concept.</p> <p>A couple of weeks later the CAI preschool director told me parents were still talking about the event.</p> <p>One mom told me that it is hard not to redo all the crafts that the kids make in preschool but the one we did for Hanukkah was one of a kind!</p> <p>At the Super Sunday I have three different parents come up to me and say you know both of our kids used their <i>Something from Nothing</i> hannukiot every single night of Hanukkah!</p>
<p><b>Advice for others:</b></p>	<p>.Go for it! We really enjoyed taking the book <i>Something from Nothing</i> and combining it with the environment (recycling) and our holiday of Hanukkah. Maybe you can combine it with another mitzvah and another holiday.</p>





# PJ Library

## premiere screening



**Please join PJ Library  
December 18, 2011 for  
the Premier Screening of  
*Something from Nothing***

**10:30 a.m. at  
Congregation Anshei Israel**

Join us for this heart warming story as an animated film. Rabbi Eisen will teach us about the Jewish theme of the movie, *Ba'al Tashchit* (Hebrew for the mitzvah to not be wasteful). A great Hanukkah craft to help you get ready for the holiday plus a snack and fun activities from the story will add to the fun. Bring your blanket, pillow, or any snuggly and get comfy as you watch Joseph and his friend Mazel the Mouse on their many adventures.

### **The Story**

If Grampa could have reached into the heavens and given his grandson Joseph the moon and the stars, he would have done that. But what could he do? He was only a poor tailor. So he made Joseph a wonderful blanket to keep him warm and cozy and to chase away bad dreams. And the scissors went SNIP, SNIP, SNIP.

**RSVP by December 15, 2011 to Mary Ellen, 577-9393, ext 138 or [pjlibrary@jfsa.org](mailto:pjlibrary@jfsa.org).**