

# A Note from PJ Goes to School

Find out how your child is exploring Jewish values through PJ Library books



## Featured book and Jewish values

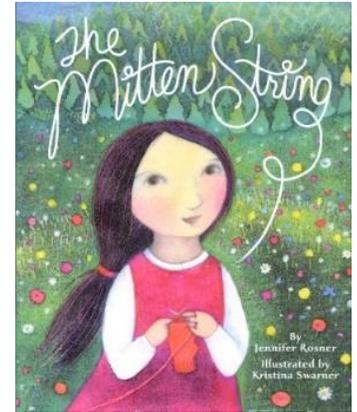
### The Mitten String

by Jennifer Rosner

Illustrated by Kristina Swarner

Published by Random House

Ruthie and her family are traveling home from selling wool at the market when they meet Bayla and her baby, Aaron. Ruthie's family stops to help. Bayla is deaf and has developed many ways to communicate with others. Inspired by how Bayla maintains a connection with Aaron, even when they're sleeping, Ruthie sees past Bayla's challenges to admire her ingenuity. Ruthie then knits a mother/baby mitten set for Bayla and Aaron, which demonstrates Ruthie's understanding of Bayla's unique needs.



### Values

**Each person is unique** - *A-dam ya-child* - אָדָם יָחִיד - valuing individual differences and diversity

**Learning from everyone** - *Lo-med mi-kol a-dam* - לֹא מֵד מִכֹּל אָדָם - appreciating the wisdom and knowledge of every person

#### What to talk about at home

- How would your life be different if you couldn't hear?
- What is something that you do really well? How would you go about teaching that skill to someone else?
- Ruthie's mother tells her that she is "both clever and kind." What are ways that people in your family show kindness? How do the members of your family solve problems?



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#### What else you can do

- Choose a new skill that you would like to learn with your child. Find a corresponding instructional video or book so that you can learn together.
- Take turns discussing the unique qualities of family members while at the dinner table or in the car. Consider focusing on a different person each time.

**More PJ library books** about appreciating differences and learning from everyone:

[Marven of the Great North Woods](#)

[Stork's Landing](#)

[Across the Alley](#)

[Cakes and Miracles](#)