

A Note from PJ Goes to School

Your child's exploration of Jewish values through PJ Library books



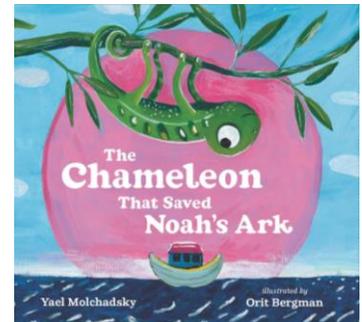
Featured book and Jewish values

The Chameleon That Saved Noah's Ark

By Yael Molchadsky

Illustrated by Orit Bergman

Published by Penguin Random House Ltd.



Do you know what chameleons eat? Noah and his family don't, until worms invade the ark's food supplies! The chameleons gleefully flick out their tongues to feast on the pesky intruders, alleviating their hunger and saving the ark's endangered fruits and vegetables. Noah puts aside two of the worms to ensure their future survival, and wisely notes that every creature has its unique place and purpose in life.

Values

Kindness to animals / *Tza-ar ba-a-lei cha-yim* / צַעַר בְּעַלֵּי חַיִּים - literally "preventing the suffering of animals," which means treating God's creatures with respect and compassion.

Everything has its place / *Kol da-var yeish ma-kom* / כָּל דָּבָר יֵשׁ מָקוֹם - acknowledging the importance of every person, animal, and living being.

What to talk about at home

- How does our family show kindness to animals?
- What additional acts can we do to ensure that all animals are well taken care of and protected?
- Who was the hero of this book – Noah, the chameleons or someone else?
- How does the idea that everything has its place impact our daily actions?



What else you can do

- Come up with new ways to nurture the animals that live in your backyard, such as building a bird feeder or bird bath. How about decorating your yard with items such as logs, large rocks or inverted planters that might serve as shelters for toads, turtles, and other creatures?
- Take a family trip to The Container Store or similar shopping choice, and explore all of the options for helping things find their places. Make a project of organizing a corner of your playroom or child's bedroom. Notice the calm that comes from knowing where everything goes.

More PJ library books about kindness to animals and the concept that everything has its place
[How to Heal a Broken Wing](#) by Bob Graham
[Mrs. Katz and Tusch](#) by Patricia Polacco
[King David and Akavish the Spider](#) by Sylvia Rouss