

## Reading Guide

## It's Sukkah Time! By Latifa Berry Kroft

For countless generations the Jewish people have taken time each autumn to stop and give thanks for the harvest – and, by extension, their many blessings of all kinds. An important means of celebrating the bounty of nature and our gratitude for it is by the building of <code>sukkot</code> (plural of <code>sukkah</code>), the huts/booths that are reminiscent of the temporary shelters used by the Jewish people as they lived and traveled in the desert after the exodus from Egypt and the slavery they endured there. <code>It's Sukkah Time!</code> points out to its readers and listeners that even young children can cooperatively participate in the creation of a colorful, cozy, livable <code>sukkah</code>. Giving our little ones the chance to help build, decorate and enjoy activities in the <code>sukkah</code> will help keep this and other Jewish traditions alive for countless generations to come. Let this book lead your family to meaningful holiday traditions of your own.

It's Sukkah Time! reminds us on every page that Sukkot is a holiday during which all of the senses can be engaged in celebration and gratitude. This makes Sukkot an ideal holiday to enjoy with children – whether by carrying fruits and vegetables to be used as decorations, taking pleasure in the fragrance of the *etrog* (a lemon-like fruit grown in Israel, also known as a citron), waving the *lulav* (the date palm branch, part of the four species gathered and shaken in six directions – east, west, north, south, up, and down – on Sukkot to signify God's presence everywhere), eating lunch, or singing or sleeping in the *sukkah*. Let this

book instill excitement in your children for a joyous, participatory, and multi-sensory holiday experience, year after year.

## About The PJ Library®

The PJ Library is an award-winning initiative of the Harold Grinspoon Foundation in partnership with your local Jewish Community. On a monthly basis, The PJ Library sends out high quality, age appropriate Jewish children's books to participating families across the country. Through providing these books, The PJ Library's goal is to help families explore the timeless core values of Judaism and to transmit these values to a new generation. To learn more about The PJ Library visit www.pjlibrary.org or call your local community representative.

