# For more information on this initiative, check us out online at www.pjlibrary.org/organizations

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# Resource Guide

# **Trees Make Perfect Pets**

We understand that how we gather looks different these days. Whether you are coming together in person or online, PJ Library will continue to provide content to connect with your community. Inside you'll find ways to:



- Use Jewish text in everyday occurrences
- Make meaningful connections to families through Jewish values
- Enrich learning experiences for all ages





#### **Trees Make Perfect Pets**

Written by: Paul Czajak

Illustrated by: Cathy Gendron

When Abigail blows out the candles on her birthday cake, she makes an unusual wish. She wishes for a pet... a pet tree! Her family is surprised, but as it turns out, trees really do make perfect pets.

# Inch by Inch

Just like Adam and Eve tending to the Garden of Eden; children (and adults!) learn so much about responsibility and the importance of caring for others by taking care of plants. In your early childhood and elementary school programming, create a space where children can come to water plants, trim back overgrown leaves and pull weeds.

## **Seders: Not Just for Passover!**

The book flaps for *Trees Make Perfect Pets* mentions the tradition of a *Tu B'shevat* seder. Bring people together in person or virtually for a different kind of festive meal; full of grape juice, fruit and nuts. If folks will be tuning in from home, prepare to-go bags with everything they'll need. Check out this fun and easy seder from PJ Library — pjfor.me/tubshevatseder.

#### Garden Club, Junior

Does your organization have a garden club for adult members? If so, consider making it an intergenerational endeavor. For their next meeting or event, encourage the club to invite younger folks in your community to join then as they share their love of plants. Once the children have learned about how to care for certain plants, they can work with the club members to create small indoor herb gardens to tend at home.

## **Party Time!**

In Trees Make Perfect Pets. Abigail and Fido (the tree) celebrate their birthdays together. There's a Jewish tradition that says all trees have the same birthday -Tu B'shevat! What better time to throw a party. Invite people to come together, either in person or virtually, to honor the tress. Make it an act of *tzedakah* by partnering with a local organization that supports environmental causes to raise funds through a dance-a-thon. PJ Library has the perfect playlist for you: pjfor.me/tubshevatmusic.

For all of PJ Library's wonderful Tu B'shevat resources, check out the Tu B'shevat Hub: pjlibrary.org/tubshevat