



THE WORLD'S BIRTHDAY

Written by Barbara Diamond Goldin

Illustrated by Jeanette Winter

Daniel is determined to celebrate Rosh Hashanah by having a proper birthday party for the world.

During *Elul*, the final month of the Hebrew year, the *shofar* (ram's horn) sounds in synagogues around the world to announce the approaching new year—which begins on the first of the month *Tishrei*—and to proclaim to all who hear the horn blasts that it is time to pay very close attention, consider past behaviors and contemplate how to improve in the coming year. At this time in the annual cycle we are reminded of the world's formation and the six days of creation as expressed in the first book of the Torah, *Bereshit* (Genesis).

Taking a tip from Daniel, provide your children with materials to create a mural that will commemorate the story of creation. Divide any large piece of paper into six linear sections; then, with the aid of a *Tanakh* (the Bible, including the Torah, the Writings and the Prophets) review with your children what appeared on days 1 through 6. They can then create their own representation of the world's birthday. Any preferred medium will do: colored chalk, markers, charcoal, etc. Proudly display your children's interpretations!

YOM HULEDET SAMEACH!

Yom Huledet Sameach! Happy Birthday! Children greet all birthdays with high spirits. Take the opportunity provided by

The World's Birthday to incorporate a Judaic flair into your family's birthday celebrations.

- Increase the singing on every birthday! The Hebrew birthday song is easy to learn! "*Yom Huledet Sameach*," repeated four times to the familiar tune of the traditional English-language song is a great addition to birthday celebrations.
- What child wouldn't love the idea of TWO birthdays? A quick trip to the Internet to enter your children's date and year of birth will provide you with their Hebrew birthday. Now you can multiply your celebrations!

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