

"Justice, justice shall you pursue."

(Deuteronomy 16:20)

Tzedakah is the Jewish word used for charity. But the word actually means justice. Teaching this concept to your kids may be easier than you think.

0-2
years old



Children this age learn everything they need to know by watching and imitating. To teach kids about *tzedakah*, make sure your young child sees you doing it yourself.

Just as you may find yourself narrating a trip to the grocery store to your baby, make sure to **talk about your charitable acts** as you do in them.

3-5
years old



Preschoolers learn best by repetition. **Tie your giving to a weekly ritual** like Shabbat so that your children see it regularized and start to form positive habits.

The idea of sharing is also central to justice. Children this age are very concerned with what's "fair." By reminding your children of the importance of sharing, you're helping them engage in *tzedakah*.

6-8
years old



If you've started to give your children allowance, it's the perfect opportunity to instill in them the importance of **dedicating a certain portion of their money** to charity.

Talk together about how much to give and which organizations you want to support. Each family member can take a turn deciding where the money you have raised goes each month.