



A SWEET PASSOVER

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Passover is a wonderful time to spend with family, but after a whole week of it, Miriam is getting pretty darn tired of matzah! That's when Grandpa saves the day with a special family recipe that he's certain Miriam will like, making this Passover sweet in more ways than one.

JEWISH CONCEPTS

Passover commemorates the Israelites' exodus from Egypt after 400 years of slavery. It is celebrated during the Hebrew month of *Nisan*, which falls in the early spring. Referred to as *Pesach* in Hebrew, this holiday is a celebration of our freedom.

The sacred journey taken by our people is symbolized by eating unleavened bread called *matzah*. Eating this flat cracker, as our ancestors did, helps us focus on our own actions and remember those for whom the journey to freedom is not yet complete.

Because we recognize that freedom is a privilege, we understand the imperative to pass our traditions on to the next generation. The Jewish value *l'dor va'dor* (literally, "from generation to generation") demonstrates our communal responsibility to act as storytellers and be the conveyors of our collective past.

In *A Sweet Passover*, this value is conveyed through a family's desire to share Passover rituals with their child. Consider creating a book of Passover recipes to pass on *l'dor va'dor*, from generation to generation. Challenge your family to create enough great recipes that not even Miriam would complain!

USING THIS BOOK AT HOME

Providing a peek behind the curtain, *A Sweet Passover* invites the reader to experience a multi-generational conversation about the challenges of upholding Passover traditions.

In this story, we meet Miriam, who loves everything about Passover. When the idea of just one more piece of matzah becomes simply too much for her to bear, Miriam's grandfather and her extended family provide meaning for matzah's importance to the Jewish people.

Opportunities for Discussion

- Can you think of a time when you felt frustrated and someone helped you?
- Why didn't Miriam's grandfather make her *matzah brei* when she was ready to eat?
- Talk about how your celebration of Passover
- is the same as and different from Miriam's.
- Are there aspects of her family's celebration that you would like to adopt?