



HANDS ON!

Make a Shiny Menorah Poster

We can't recommend that you place a lighted menorah in your child's bedroom window, but this shiny menorah poster is perfectly safe.

Supplies:
Aluminum foil
Marker
Scissors
Glue
Poster board
Glitter pens/paint/glue

Help your child place both hands side by side on a piece of foil. Position the hands so that the thumbs overlap. Trace around the hands with the marker and cut them out as one continuous piece. Glue the tinfoil hands onto a piece of poster board. Each finger serves as a "candle" on your menorah (the two thumbs make one candle -- the shamash). Use some glittery art supplies, like glitter pens, paint, or glue, to create a flame on top of each "candle," then place your poster in your window. Goodnight, bubbala!

Goodnight Bubbala

written by Sheryl Haft

illustrated by Jill Weber

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Where do you find peace?

A Joyful Tradition

Goodnight Bubbala is a "joyful parody" of a book many families have had on their bookshelves for decades: Goodnight Moon, by Margaret Wise Brown. Parents and grandparents always share much-loved traditions with the next generation. For many families, this includes not only bedtime stories but religious customs as well. In Judaism, this concept is referred to as I'dor vador, Hebrew for "from generation to generation," and we see it take place every time a family sings a blessing together or gathers for a holiday dinner. As this sweet book shows, even bedtime rituals are an opportunity to pass on beloved customs. To learn more, visit pjlibrary.org/goodnightbubbala.

Light Up the Night

Speaking of rituals, one of the many ritual items highlighted in this story is the Hanukkah menorah shining in the bunny's window. A menorah is a reminder of the miracle of Hanukkah – when the victorious Maccabees restored the Temple in Jerusalem and lit the ritual menorah, oil that should have lasted only one night lasted eight nights. For each of the holiday's eight nights, it is traditional to place a menorah in a window so that passersby can enjoy its flickering glow – and be reminded that even in dark times, bravery triumphs. To learn more about the story of Hanukkah and the rituals of the holiday, visit pjlibrary.org/hanukkah.

Yelling and Kvelling

This book is filled not only with colorful illustrations but also colorful words. Yiddish, the language once spoken by millions of Jews across Central and Eastern Europe, is known for its "zesty and expressive" qualities, which is why many Yiddish words have found their way into English. You might find that you use some Yiddish in everyday life without even knowing it -- words like kosher, chutzpah, glitch, shmutz, schmaltz, maven, and klutz. Who knows? After reading this book, you may start using a few more Yiddish words!

TALK IT OVER WITH YOUR KIDS

AT the beginning of this book, the bunny's whole mishpacha (family) comes to say goodnight . . . and it's a BIG mishpacha! Who is in your family?

THE bunny in this story has a special toy gorilla. Do you have a special toy or object you like to take to bed with you? Which one?

THERE are many cats in this book! How many are there? Can you find them all?