**Read** the PJ Library Book

*And Then Another Sheep Turned Up (4s)*

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**Synopsis**

Just as Papa, Mama, Hannah, and Baby Noah sit down to enjoy their Passover Seder, in comes Grandma with a can of macaroons and wine. Grandma is the first of a long chain of guests who appear during the course of the sheep family’s Seder. Like good hosts, the family delights over the arrival of each guest and happily makes more space at the table. This fun-filled book provides a step-by-step guide to hosting a Passover Seder and celebrates the joys of family get-togethers.

For more information about Passover, see our Passover one-page guide [here](#).

**Discuss** the Jewish values and vocabulary with one another

### Welcoming guests - *hach-na-sat or-chim*** - חנ norske אוּרְחִים

Family - *mish-pa-cha* - משפחה

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**Introducing the value of welcoming guests**

*Hachnasat orchim*

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<th>From Jewish teachings</th>
<th>For the teacher</th>
<th>Questions for children</th>
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| When the Biblical Abraham and Sarah first welcomed weary travelers into their tent (Genesis 18:1), they set the norms for Jewish hospitality. Based on their behaviors, Rabbinic scholars have developed hospitality guidelines such as: greet guests at the door, offer food and drink, ask about their interests, and escort guests to the door when they leave. The Passover Seder traditionally begins with the reading of a prayer (*ha lachma anya*), inviting all who are hungry to come and eat. | How do you like to be greeted when visiting a friend’s home or workplace?  
- In what ways do you model/encourage hospitality in the classroom?  
- What modifications could you make to your classroom’s activities, routines, or physical environment to help the room feel more welcoming? | What do you like about having guests visit your home?  
- How do you make guests feel welcome at home?  
- Who should we invite to our classroom and what can we do to help our guests feel comfortable?  
- When unexpected guests visit our classroom, how should we react and what should we do? |

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For the teacher:

- How do you like to be greeted when visiting a friend’s home or workplace?
- In what ways do you model/encourage hospitality in the classroom?
- What modifications could you make to your classroom’s activities, routines, or physical environment to help the room feel more welcoming?

Questions for children:

- What do you like about having guests visit your home?
- How do you make guests feel welcome at home?
- Who should we invite to our classroom and what can we do to help our guests feel comfortable?
- When unexpected guests visit our classroom, how should we react and what should we do?
Imagine your community living these Jewish values. How would your classroom change? How will families be involved?

In the Classroom / Centers

- **Hachnasat orchim/welcoming guests:** What welcome-to-your-home art projects would your students like to create? Give examples such as painting welcome mats, building a welcome door sign, or designing table place cards with guests’ names and a picture. Discuss how each of these items might help a guest feel welcome in their home.

- **Hachnasat orchim/welcoming guests:** Invite family members or other special guests to join your morning meeting and discuss what it was like for them to move to a new country or come to an unfamiliar place. Before the guest speaker arrives, ask the children to brainstorm ways to help the guest feel comfortable and welcome in the classroom.

- **Mishpacha/family:** Create scenarios for your small world play that enable children to act out family situations, such as outings in the park, family dinners, or wild adventures. For examples, visit http://bit.ly/small-world-families. If you have plain wooden figures as pictured here, you can use photos of the children’s family members to add faces or other features to the figures.

- **Mishpacha/family:** Where and how are family photos displayed in your room? Ask your families for beautiful frames and proudly display them on an accessible shelf for children to visit and polish. Alternatively, you might string photos vertically and use them as room dividers.

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**Introducing the value of family**

**Mishpacha**

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| Jewish life revolves around the family. Many rituals, such as holiday meals, baby naming’s, and lighting the menorah, often take place in the home while surrounded by family. The Torah offers detailed rules about family interactions. For example, children should honor their parents (Exodus 20:12, Deuteronomy 5:16) and parents should serve as their children’s primary teachers, “teaching them diligently” when they are “sitting in the home, walking by the way and…lying down and rising up” (Deuteronomy 6:7). | - What aspects of your own family life do you share with your students?  
- How do you acknowledge and celebrate families both in your curriculum and in your classroom’s physical environment?  
- How can you incorporate families and family themes into the various centers of your classroom? | - Who are the people in your family?  
- Think about some of your friend’s or relatives’ families. How are these families alike and how are they different?  
- When does your whole family come together like the Sheep family in this book? What do you like about big family gatherings? |
Bridging Home and School

Museum of family mementos
Ask families to send in one item (or photo of an item) that tells an important part of their family’s history. Families could fill out a brief card or form that describes why the item is important to their family’s story. Have children take turns showing and describing their item to their classmates. Arrange the items on a table and invite families and other classrooms to visit your unique family exhibit.

Roll out the welcome mat
Designate a “Welcome to our School Day.” Invite families to send in notes describing items that they would like to see in the school’s lobby that will help them feel welcome in the school, such as fresh coffee, doughnuts, or photos of children waving hello. For “Welcome Day,” try to incorporate as many of the families’ suggestions as possible.

Family Engagement at Home

Playdate at our house
Send home a note explaining that the class has been discussing how to welcome guests. Encourage families to discuss their routines when welcoming guests, particularly when children come to play. What toys are too difficult to share that should be put away ahead of time? How will your child react when a playdate makes different choices than your child anticipated?

Share your stories and experiences with everyone.

What happened?
How can the learning go deeper?

Tell us a story… with pictures about welcoming guests to your classroom.
Begin a welcome wall of photos that shows you greeting guests into your classroom. Whenever a visitor comes to share a snack, read a book, or share some expertise, snap a photo of your guest with the children. Add photos of your maintenance and school staff as they fix a problem or clean the room.

Please share with the PJGtS community of practice on our private Facebook group page!
http://pjfor.me/pjgts-facebook

More resources and websites for inspiration