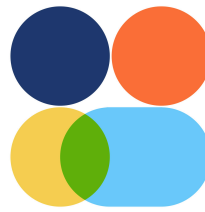


LESSON PLAN



Theme Inviting Guests to our *Sukkot*

Grade Level(s)

Kindergarten - 2nd Grade

Time of lesson 45 minutes

Key Ideas

- Sukkot is also called the “Festival of Booths” as we remember what the Israelites lived in when they wandered in the desert.
- It is a mitzvah to eat a meal, sleep, or gather in a sukkah during Sukkot because the torah says that we are commanded to “dwell in the sukkah”.
- We can fulfill the *mitzvah of Hachnasat Orchim*, welcoming of guests, on Sukkot by inviting guests to spend time in our sukkah with us.

Learning Outcomes

Students will:

- Know the commandment to “dwell in the sukkah”
- Learn the components of a kosher sukkah
- Understand the importance of inviting guests into their sukkah
- Use creativity and imagination to build a sukkah for their stuffed animals/dolls

Materials & Resources

- Visual of components of a kosher sukkah (attached to this lesson plan)
- Variety of materials to build with
- Stuffed animals or dolls (invite students to bring their favorite stuffy to class or have some available for students to borrow)

Warm-up and Overview

Welcome students into class and welcome their “guests” (their stuffies). Have students make a name tag for their stuffed animal and introduce them to the class/to each other

Introduction

- Asks students “What holiday is coming up?” (or What holiday is it?).
- Introduce the idea that Sukkot is the “Festival of Booths”. Ask if students know what a sukkah is. Ask if any students have ever been in a sukkah.
- Explain that we are commanded to “dwell in the sukkah” during Sukkot which can look like sleeping there or eating a meal there.
- Finally, tie in the mitzvah of welcoming “guests” (the stuffies). Introduce the words *Hachnasat Orchim* “welcoming guests”. Explain that this is a mitzvah we are told to do whenever possible. On Sukkot inviting guests into our sukkah can add another mitzvah to the mitzvah of eating in the sukkah - so we are going to build sukkot to welcome our “guests” into!

Specific Accomodations

- Provide multiple choices for the questions asked
- give students the option to draw what a sukkah is instead of verbally answering
- allow students to “turn and talk” to answer questions instead of sharing with the whole group

Activity

- Show students the visual of what a sukkah must look like. Provide them with building materials (i.e. Legos, cardboard boxes, crayons, markers, tape, blocks, sticks, leaves, paper, play dough, etc.).
- Have students build their sukkahs in pairs, groups, individually, or as a whole class.
- Explain that they should make their Sukkah big enough for the stuffies to fit in them and they should be kosher sukkahs based on the visual provided.

Specific

Accommodations

- Individual visual for parts of sukkah for each student or group
- variety of building materials for all different physical and sensory needs
- group students appropriately based on age, ability, or social comfort

Options for Extensions

- Students that finish early can make decorations for their sukkahs. Encourage them to make them pretty as this is also a big part of creating a sukkah. Allow them to create decorations for their own sukkahs or the synagogue sukkah if they are finished with everything

Options for Remediation

- Students that are struggling to create their sukkah: pair up with students that are older, or seem to have a better understanding.
- Have several "back up" sukkahs already built that just need one component added (i.e. just add the roof/*schach*)

Review and Closing

- When students are done, have them test each other's sukkahs. Ask them if their sukkahs are able to include all different types of stuffies (guests).
- If a stuffie does not fit in another friend's *sukkah*, ask them how it felt when their stuffie could not be included.
- End the activity with a discussion about how can sukkah be created so that all different stuffies can be welcomed in (aka, how can we create sukkahs that feel welcoming to all our guests)

Specific Accommodations

- Provide multiple choice instead of open ended questions
- have students point to a sukkah that could fit their stuffies best

Checking for Understanding

Check for understanding throughout the lesson.

- While building the sukkahs, ask students:
 - Where are your 3 sides?
 - What are you using for *schach*?
 - How will you be sure your 'guests' will fit in your sukkah?
- Look at all the sukkahs that students created to ensure all components were included.

How to Make a Kosher Sukkah

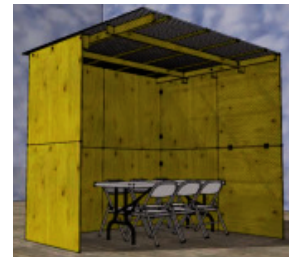
In the Torah, it says that: God commanded us to “ **dwell in Sukkahs**”

בְּסֻכּוֹת תֵּשְׁבוּ



So what is a Kosher sukkah? It is a sukkah that has:

At least two and a half walls



A roof made of natural elements
(a *schach*)

