Dear Youth Directors, Youth chairs, and Youth Leaders,

**NCYI is excited to continue our very successful Parsha Nation Guides.** I hope you're enjoying and learning from Parsha Nation as much as we are. Putting together Parsha Nation every week is indeed no easy task. It takes a lot of time and effort to ensure that each section, as well as each age group, receives the attention and dedication it deserves.

**We inspire and mold future leaders.** The youth leaders of Young Israel have the distinct honor and privilege to teach and develop the youth of Young Israel. Children today are constantly looking for role models and inspirations to latch on to and learn from. Whether it is actual sit down learning sessions, exciting Parsha trivia games, or even just walking down the hall to the Kiddush room, our youth look to us and watch our every move.

**It’s not always about the things we say, it’s about the things we do.** Our children hear and see everything we do whether we realize it or not. This year we are taking our Youth Services to new heights as we introduce our Leadership Training Shabbaton. This engaging, interactive shabbaton will give youth leader's hands on experience and practical solutions to effectively guide your youth department.

**Informal education is key.** What the summer shows us as educators is that informal education can deliver better results and help increase our youth’s connection to Hashem. More and more shuls are revamping their youth program to give their children a better connection to shul and to Hashem. The NCYI is here to help you reconnect with your youth departments and bring more participation.

**Thank you for being a light to future generations.** You are doing incredible work that should not be taken lightly. You should be proud to call yourself a Young Israel Youth Leader as you have the unique opportunity to make a real difference in so many young people’s lives. Keep up the amazing work.

We are looking forward to hearing great things from everyone.

Our doors are always open.

NCYI Department of Synagogue Services
Youth@youngisrael.org

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Program Guide Breakdown

Theme- Each year our curriculum will focus on a theme. By centering the entire year around one overarching theme, our youth group participants will understand different characteristics and concepts that will help them achieve this lofty goal. This year's theme is Manhigut (leadership). Our goal is for our children to view themselves as leaders and to inspire them to play a leadership role every day.

Parsha Review- Each week group leaders will have the opportunity to roundup the parsha in two or three paragraphs. By giving over the parsha in a short and simple way, group participants will be able to grasp the parsha as a whole and to get them to think globally and conceptually.

Parsha Questions- No Shabbat morning group is complete without a list of parsha questions. These questions allow group participants the opportunity to win fun prizes while increasing their Torah knowledge. Questions vary from basic understanding of story line to challenging source-based material. The answers are provided as well.

Tefillah Treasure- Many youth directors have asked for help when it comes to teaching tefillah to children. This is a problem that not only shuls are dealing with. Schools, camps, and youth organizations are having trouble developing creative ideas to help children understand tefillah. Over the course of the year, this section will highlight one aspect of davening by providing both the Hebrew and English text, and one explanatory idea. The older the age group, the more we delve into the idea. This section is designed to help group participants follow the flow of tefillah while understanding what they are saying.

Group Activity- Now the fun begins! We start off with a GOAL. Each game has a purpose. The youth leaders should familiarize themselves with the goal before implementing the game.

Discussion Portion- After the game is over and the participants are settled down, the youth leaders should facilitate a discussion. The guidelines for this discussion are broken down into easy to use instructions. Youth leaders should review the discussion topics and goals before the start of morning groups.

Story- Each week we will include a story that addresses a modern day concern with lesson taken from that week's parsha.

Jewish Leader of the Week- In keeping with our theme of Manhigut, every week a different Jewish Leader from modern Jewish history will be highlighted. This will allow group participants to expand their knowledge of history and to learn how they can be a Jewish leader in today's society.

Teen Minyan Packet- This packet is filled with stories, riddles, points to ponder, and more.

Leader Tip- Each section has some great tips for leaders and how they should conduct that section.

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## Shabbat Morning Groups Lesson Plan

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time Duration</th>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5 min</td>
<td>Registration</td>
<td>Welcome parents and children in to the group room.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10-35 min</td>
<td>Davening</td>
<td>Depending on your group size and level.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 min</td>
<td>Introduction to Yearly Theme (Manhigut)</td>
<td>Refer to Handout</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 min</td>
<td>Parsha Review</td>
<td>Prep participants for parsha questions.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 min</td>
<td>Parsha Questions</td>
<td>Prizes and awards should also be given out if participants answer correctly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 min</td>
<td>Understanding the Goal</td>
<td>Leaders should start prepping for Shabbat activity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30 min</td>
<td>Activities</td>
<td>Your choice of two games to play</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 min</td>
<td>Follow Up Discussion</td>
<td>Refer to materials</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 min</td>
<td>Parsha Song</td>
<td>This is for younger groups only.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20 min</td>
<td>Free Game Play</td>
<td>Groups can break for free game play or continue their own programing.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 min</td>
<td>Story</td>
<td>Assemble in a circle and have participants read sections of the story out loud.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5-10 min</td>
<td>Discussion</td>
<td>Refer to handout</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 min</td>
<td>Jewish Leader of the Week</td>
<td>Refer to handout</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 min</td>
<td>Tefillah Treasures</td>
<td>Refer to Handout</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 min</td>
<td>Parent Pick up/Dismissal</td>
<td>Parents pick up their children.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Total Time:</strong></td>
<td><strong>2 hours &amp; 40 min of programing!</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
In this week’s parsha, Aharon is instructed to light the Menorah, and the Menorah’s construction is reviewed. Moshe is commanded to swear in the Leviyim into the service of the Mishkan. Their term of service was from age 25 to age 50. Bnei Yisrael keep their second Pesach since leaving Egypt. The laws of Pesach Shaynie - the makeup Pesach (one month after Pesach) are taught for those who were unable to bring the Korban Pesach at the appropriate time.

The movement of the Amud Ha’Anan as the signs of when to travel or break the camp is introduced. In addition to the Amud Ha’anan, Moshe is commanded to make two silver trumpets that would be used to announce the traveling of Bnei Yisrael, or the movement of troops during war. The description of Bnei Yisrael’s travels from Har Sinai is recorded. Moshe approaches Yitro, who refuses his offer to join them in Eretz Yisrael.

The two pesukim of "Vayehi b’nsoa aron" are stated, and then things begin to unravel. Then Bnei Yisrael complains about the physical conditions of their dwelling in the desert. The Man is described in contrast to the nation's desire for "real food". Moshe expresses his frustrations as leader, and Hashem promises to send quail to satisfy the people's desire for meat. Moshe is instructed to appoint a Sanhedrin to help him govern and teach the nation. The 70 Elders are divinely confirmed, and Eldad and Maydad prophesies the transition of leadership from Moshe to Yehoshua.

So much quail descends upon the camp that each person collected 1000 lb. of meat. Aharon and Miriam speak Lashon Harah about Moshe, resulting in Hashem confirming Moshe as His distinguished servant and prophet. Miriam is afflicted with Tzaraat.

**LEADER TIP:** Bring in special Man treats!
Questions

1. What special Mitzvah was given to Aharon?
2. How far did Bnei Yisrael travel in one day?
3. Why did the Bnei Yisrael complain?
4. What did the Erev Rav (those Egyptians who converted as the Jews left Mitzrayim) complain about?
5. What kind of food came? What happened to those who stuffed themselves with it?
6. What did Miriam say about Moshe?
7. Why was Miriam punished?
8. How was she punished?
9. How was she rewarded?
10. Why did she deserve this?

Answers

1. To prepare and light the menorah
2. The distance one would normally travel in three days
3. Because they traveled too fast
4. They said they can’t just live on Man, they wanted meat
5. Slov, a type of bird fell, and HaShem sent a plague to kill all those who ran to eat it all
6. Lashon hara, saying that Moshe left his wife since he was always getting nevuah (prophecy)
7. Because she spoke lashon hara about her brother Moshe
8. She was stricken with tzoraat
9. Bnei Yisrael did not travel until she was better, they waited for her
10. Because after placing Moshe in the river, she waited around to see what would happen to him

LEADER TIP: Bring in matzah for Pesach sheni!
**GOAL:** To teach the kids about how the cloud and fire would lead Bnei Yisrael through the desert.

**ACTIVITY:** “Follow the Leader”

Line children up and designate one leader who they are to follow around. To begin with, you may want an adult to lead so kids get the idea.

It’s up to the leader to decide the actions or paths the children take.

Begin with simple actions like: hand on heads, star jumps, sit down, stand up

If an obstacle course is available, take the kids on a journey. The children can climb over, under or around things makes for even greater excitement.

Change leaders and give every child a go at leading the others.

If you can, prepare before Shabbos some sort of cloud and fire costume or hat so that the leader can wear it during the game.

“Red Light! Green Light!”

Have your students line up (side by side) at one end of your space facing the teacher. The teacher stands opposite of the children and faces the children. When the teacher shouts “Green Light!” The children walk quickly or run (depending on your space) towards the teacher. When the teacher shouts “Red Light!” The children stop where they are. The teacher continues to shout “red light or green light” until the children get to her and then all the children go back to the starting line and the game starts again.

**DISCUSSION:** In the desert, Hashem gave Bnei Yisrael a special cloud and fire to lead them through the desert. It rested over the mishkan day and night and let everyone know when they should rest and when they should travel. Moshe was also commanded by Hashem to make silver trumpets to gather everyone together and let them know they would be continuing to travel. In this game, we were pretending to be Moshe and the special cloud and fire leading Bnei Yisrael through the desert.

**LEADER TIP:** Ask the kids what it was like to be the leader? Do they think they could’ve lead Bnei Yisrael?
PARSHA STORY

Before you read: When something's important to us, we shouldn't give up easily. This week's parsha (Num. 9:6-14) tells of how some people who wanted a second chance to come closer to God persisted so much, that God told Moses to add an extra clause into the Torah so they could! When it comes to accomplishing our worthwhile goals - persistence pays.

CAMPING ON THE PHONE

"Busy again!" Sheila said, as the phone buzzed its 'busy' signal for what felt like the thousandth time. She and her friend, Amy, had been really psyched about applying as volunteer counselors for Camp Care, an amazing, action-packed summer camp for special-needs kids. Besides the free trips to all the great places the camp took the kids and all the celebrity visitors they would meet, both girls really felt dedicated to helping special kids feel joy in their lives, and felt they had the patience and care to help make that happen.

But after more than an hour of trying to get through to the special 'volunteers hotline' which had been published in the paper and was going to be setting up interview appointments for applicants for one day only, it seemed that hundreds of other kids had gotten the same idea.

"Well, I guess we should just forget it," Sheila said glumly. "It seems like Camp Care is going to be spending its summer without us."

"What do you mean 'forget it'?" Amy asked. "The ad said the phone line would be open until late afternoon."

"Huh!" Sheila harrumphed. "I'll bet there's not even anyone answering the phone. And even if there is, I'm sure all the counselor positions will be taken up by people who got earlier interview appointments than we would, even if we get through. Do you have any idea how many kids apply to a place like that? My cousin volunteered almost ten years ago and he still talks about how amazing the experience was."

"Well, isn't that all the more reason we should keep trying?" Amy said, dialing and then knitting her brow at the yet again busy signal. Sheila shook her head and stuffed her phone and other things into her carry bag. "I've had enough," she said. "It's a beautiful day and we've already wasted enough of it. I'm turning off my phone, going to the lake, soaking up some shade and feeding the ducks. You should come too."
Amy shook her head. "Uh, uh. I want to keep trying. I just think it would be so great for the kids I could help - and for me."

Sheila shrugged, shot Amy a pitying look, and flipping her bag over her shoulder, pranced off.

Hours later...

DAH-DAH-DAH The busy signal, which had become like a mantra in Amy's ear, buzzed yet again. *Maybe Sheila had been right,* Amy sighed. There were less than five minutes left of calling time and all she had for her hours of efforts was a sore redial finger and a missed-day at the lake.

She was about to turn off her phone, when she said to herself, *This is something really important to me and I'm going to see it through to the end.*

Amy dialed and got ready to click off again at the inevitable busy signal when she was startled to hear a voice.

"Hello?"

"Is this Camp Care?" Amy asked, excited.

"It is ... I mean, was," the tired voice said. "Calling hours are over and we're packing up."

"Oh, no!" Amy groaned. "I've been trying to reach you for six hours!" she said. "Can't you please just sign me up for an interview, too?"

"I'm sorry," said the voice - then there was a pause. "Did you say six hours?"

"Yes!" Amy sputtered, "Straight out."

There was another pause. Then the voice said; "You know, that kind of commitment is really just the thing these kids - and our camp - need. I'll tell you what, I'm putting you at the top of our interview list. Come to our office tomorrow at nine o'clock sharp; ask for the assistant director and I'll see what I can do."

"Wow, Amy, you're sooo lucky," Sheila said when Amy's Camp Care acceptance form came in the mail. "You are going to be having the summer of a lifetime, while I'm going to be sitting at this boring old lake ... feeding ducks."

Amy nodded and tried to be sympathetic, but she knew that luck had nothing to do with it and that even though she'd be volunteering; she'd already been well paid - by her persistence.
Discussion Questions

Q. How did Sheila feel about continuing to try to reach the camp on the phone?
A. Even though she wanted to go there, she felt like it was too much trouble to keep trying.

Q. How did Amy feel about it?
A. She felt it was something really important to her and kept trying - until she succeeded.

**LEADER TIP:** Was there ever a time that you pushed yourself harder than you ever thought you could?
Aharon HaKohen

Aharon, the elder brother of Moshe, a great-grandson of Levi, was chosen by God to be the first Kohen Gadol. He first served in his official capacity as Kohen Gadol at the inauguration of the mishkan of the month of Nissan, one year after the Exodus. His service and prayer brought the Divine Presence to the mishkan. He was inaugurated by being dressed in the eight garments unique to the Kohen Gadol and was anointed with oil.

Aharon and his sons were the first Kohanim to officiate at the mishkan, the portable Temple which traveled with the Jewish people in the desert for forty years. This Tabernacle was located in the center of the camp. The encampment of the Kohanim and the Levites surrounded the mishkan. The remaining tribes surrounded them.

Aharon HaKohen had four sons. His two eldest sons, Nadav and Avihu, were struck dead at the mishkan's inauguration when, although they were not commanded to do so, they attempted to bring a incense offering. This tragic event emphasized the strictness and seriousness of the holy service, the men who were meant to offer sacrifices became systematic groups themselves.

**LEADER TIP:** Aharon’s greatest quality was making peace between people. Why is being friendly and peaceful with everyone so important?
Boruch... Gomail Chasadim Tovim L'ahmo Yisroel.

"..........Blessed are You..... Who bestows benificent kindness upon His people Israel."

Our Sages teach us that Hashem is constantly performing acts of kindness for the people of Israel. As we go about our daily lives, behind the scenes, Hashem is protecting us from our enemies, fighting off diseases, arranging for money to arrive just in the nick of time, steering rain clouds in another direction, making sure that a drunk driver takes a different street, keeping Sadaam Hussein and other wicked people occupied so they can't gang up on Israel, and making a bird fly past your house so the mosquito with a big appetite doesn't sting you.

We must take the time to think about all the wonderful kind acts that Hashem bestows upon us. Big or small, the Creator of the Universe knows our every move and watches over each and every one of us.

LEADER TIP: What is one moment in your life that you know couldn’t have happened without Hashem’s kindness, care, and help?
In this week’s parsha, Aharon is instructed to light the Menorah, and the Menorah’s construction is reviewed. Moshe is commanded to swear in the Leviyim into the service of the Mishkan. Their term of service was from age 25 to age 50. Bnei Yisrael keep their second Pesach since leaving Egypt. The laws of Pesach Shaynie - the makeup Pesach (one month after Pesach) are taught for those who were unable to bring the Korban Pesach at the appropriate time.

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**QUESTIONS**

1. What special Mitzvah was given to Aharon?
2. Why would someone have to bring their karbon Pesach a month late on the 14th of Iyar?
3. What do we call this day?
4. How far did Bnei Yisrael travel in one day?
5. Why did the Bnei Yisrael complain?
6. What did the Erev Rav (those Egyptians who converted as the Jews left Mitzrayim) complain about?
7. What kind of food came? What happened to those who stuffed themselves with it?
8. Moshe felt that he couldn’t handle the nation himself so what did HaShem do?
9. What were the Chatzotzrot?
10. When were they used?
11. What did Miriam say about Moshe?
12. Why was Miriam punished?
13. How was she punished?
14. How was she rewarded?
15. Why did she deserve this?

**ANSWERS**

1. To prepare and light the menorah
2. Because they were tameh and couldn’t bring their karbon on time
3. Pesach Sheni
4. The distance one would normally travel in three days
5. Because they traveled too fast
6. They said they can’t just live on Man, they wanted meat
7. Slow, a type of bird fell, and HaShem sent a plague to kill all those who ran to eat it all
8. He told them to gather seventy zekeinim (elders) and HaShem would prepare them to help Moshe lead
9. Moshe’s two silver trumpets
10. a. To tell the Bnei Yisrael that they were about...
   i. To travel
   ii. Or to gather them
   iii. Or when an enemy attacked
11. Lashon hara, saying that Moshe left his wife since he was always getting nevuah (prophecy)
12. Because she spoke lashon hara about her brother Moshe
13. She was stricken with tzoraat
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15. Because after placing Moshe in the river, she waited around to see what would happen to him

**LEADER TIP:** Bring in matzah for Pesach sheni!
GOAL: To reenact the Man falling from the sky and the Jews being able to make it be whatever they wanted it to taste like.

ACTIVITY: “Three Flies Up!”

One person throws a ball into the air to a group of people who try to catch it. The first person to catch the ball three times then becomes the thrower.

“Try That On For Size”

This is an association game, where two or more people go head to head at a time. Ask the group for some sort of motion. The first person starts with that very repetitive motion and then says what they are doing. They follow it up by saying, "Try that on for size." The second person does the exact same action, but says they are doing something completely different that make sense with the action. Then it goes back to the first person with the same action. This goes back and forth until one person cannot come up with something for that action. They are then eliminated and a new person comes and takes their place and a new action is chosen.

DISCUSSION: In the desert, Mana would fall from the sky and it was an incredible gift from Hashem. It was your decision what you wanted it to taste like. You could make it taste like whatever you wanted it to! Just like the game! Unfortunately the Jews didn’t appreciate it and complained that they wanted something else, which didn’t end up working out for Bnei Yisrael. It’s important to be happy with what you have and not always wish for more or something different because you will never be satisfied and never be happy.

LEADER TIP: If you could make your Mana Meal taste like anything in the world, what would it be?
Before you read: When something's important to us, we shouldn't give up easily. This week's parsha (Num. 9:6-14) tells of how some people who wanted a second chance to come closer to God persisted so much, that God told Moses to add an extra clause into the Torah so they could! When it comes to accomplishing our worthwhile goals - persistence pays.

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**Discussion Questions**

Q. What life-lesson do you think someone could learn from this story?
A. Many times the things we want to accomplish don't happen right away, but if we're willing to persist, we will often succeed.
Q. What if Amy had never gotten through on the phone? Would you say she had made a mistake by trying so hard?
A. While she might not have accomplished her immediate goal, she would be building the good character trait of persistence, which is a valuable tool for life.

**LEADER TIP:** Was there ever a time that you pushed yourself harder than you ever thought you could?
Aharon HaKohen

Aharon, the elder brother of Moshe, a great-grandson of Levi, was chosen by God to be the first Kohen Gadol. He first served in his official capacity as Kohen Gadol at the inauguration of the mishkan of the month of Nissan, one year after the Exodus. His service and prayer brought the Divine Presence to the mishkan. He was inaugurated by being dressed in the eight garments unique to the Kohen Gadol and was anointed with oil.

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Aharon HaKohen had four sons. His two eldest sons, Nadav and Avihu, were struck dead at the mishkan's inauguration when, although they were not commanded to do so, they attempted to bring a incense offering. This tragic event emphasized the strictness and seriousness of the holy service, the men who were meant to offer sacrifices became systematic groups themselves.

Elazar and Itamar, Aharon's remaining sons, served as Kohanim along with their father. Although Pinchas, the son of Elazar, was not officially born into the role of Kohen, his zealousness in the defense of God's honor earned for him the title of Kohen, a unique event in Jewish history.

At the age of 123, on the first of Av, Aharon died, at which time, Elazar, Aharon's eldest son, was dressed in the garments and anointed Kohen Gadol, in his stead and put in charge of the Levi'im and the service.

LEADER TIP: Aharon’s greatest quality was making peace between people. Why is being friendly and peaceful with everyone so important?
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We must take the time to think about all the wonderful kind acts that Hashem bestows upon us. Big or small, the Creator of the Universe knows our every move and watches over each and every one of us.

LEADER TIP: What is one moment in your life that you know couldn’t have happened without Hashem’s kindness, care, and help?
In this week’s parsha, Aharon is instructed to light the Menorah, and the Menorah's construction is reviewed. Moshe is commanded to swear in the Leviyim into the service of the Mishkan. Their term of service was from age 25 to age 50. Bnei Yisrael keep their second Pesach since leaving Egypt. The laws of Pesach Shaynie - the makeup Pesach (one month after Pesach) are taught for those who were unable to bring the Korban Pesach at the appropriate time.

The movement of the Amud Ha’Anan as the signs of when to travel or break the camp is introduced. In addition to the Amud Ha’anan, Moshe is commanded to make two silver trumpets that would be used to announce the traveling of Bnei Yisrael, or the movement of troops during war. The description of Bnei Yisrael’s travels from Har Sinai is recorded. Moshe approaches Yitro, who refuses his offer to join them in Eretz Yisrael.

The two pesukim of "Vayehi b’nsoa aron" are stated, and then things begin to unravel. Then Bnei Yisrael complains about the physical conditions of their dwelling in the desert. The Man is described in contrast to the nation’s desire for "real food". Moshe expresses his frustrations as leader, and Hashem promises to send quail to satisfy the people's desire for meat. Moshe is instructed to appoint a Sanhedrin to help him govern and teach the nation. The 70 Elders are divinely confirmed, and Eldad and Maydad prophesies the transition of leadership from Moshe to Yehoshua.

So much quail descends upon the camp that each person collected 1000 lb. of meat. Aharon and Miriam speak Lashon Harah about Moshe, resulting in Hashem confirming Moshe as His distinguished servant and prophet. Miriam is afflicted with Tzaraat.

**LEADER TIP:** Bring in special Man treats!
**PARSHA QUESTIONS**

**QUESTIONS**

1. What special Mitzvah was given to Aharon?
2. What must a Levi do from the age of 25 to 30?
3. At what ages did the Leviim work in the Mishkan?
4. Why would someone have to bring their karbon Pesach a month late on the 14th of Iyar?
5. What do we call this day?
6. What was on the Ohel Moed that indicated when it was time to travel?
7. How far did Bnei Yisrael travel in one day?
8. Why did the Bnei Yisrael complain?
9. What did the Erev Rav (those Egyptians who converted as the Jews left Mitzrayim) complain about?
10. How were they punished?
11. What is unique about the two pesukim beginning with Vayehi Binsoa HaAron?
12. Moshe felt that he couldn’t handle the nation himself so what did HaShem do?
13. What kind of food came? What happened to those who stuffed themselves with it?
14. What were the Chatzotzrot?
15. When were they used?
16. What did Miriam say about Moshe?
17. Why was Miriam punished?
18. How was she punished?
19. How was she rewarded?
20. Why did she deserve this?

**ANSWERS**

1. To prepare and light the menorah
2. Study how to serve HaShem in the Beit Hamikdash
3. From age 25, a Levi came to learn to do the work in the Mishkan, at age 30 he began to work, and at age 50 he stopped and helped others watch, guard and sing
4. Because they were tameh and couldn’t bring their karbon on time
5. Pesach Sheni
6. By day, an anan (cloud) and by night esh (pillar of fire) rested on it, and it moved near shevat yehudah when it was time to travel
7. The distance one would normally travel in three days
8. Because they traveled too fast
9. They said they can’t just live on Man, they wanted meat
10. a. For complaining about the travel, a fire came and killed them
    b. For complaining about the mun, the wicked died while chewing the meat that HaShem brought
11. They are surrounded by upside down nuns
12. He told them to gather seventy zekeinim (elders) and HaShem would prepare them to help Moshe lead
13. Slov, a type of bird fell, and HaShem sent a plague to kill all those who ran to eat it all
14. Moshe’s two silver trumpets
15. a. To tell the Bnei Yisrael that they were about...
   i. To travel
   ii. Or to gather them
   iii. Or when an enemy attacked
16. Lashon hara, sayingb that Moshe left his wife since he was always getting nevuah (prophecy)
17. Because she spoke lashon hara about her brother Moshe
18. She was stricken with tzoraat
19. Bnei Yisrael did not travel until she was better, they waited for her
20. Because after placing Moshe in the river, she waited around to see what would happen to him

**LEADER TIP:** Bring in matzah for Pesach sheni!
GOAL: To teach the kids to be thankful for what they have

ACTIVITY: Tell the kids the following story. Feel free to be creative as you like (act it out, have the kids act it out, etc. Again, do not read off the paper).

Long ago, in a small town in Poland, lived a wealthy man named Yankle. Yankle was known for his good deeds among the community, and his love of mitzvot. And it came to pass Yankle suffered great misfortunes and lost all his wealth. Yankle and his wife had no children, so they did not mind the changes so much, although as time went by, their situation got worse and worse. Gradually, Yankle lost his company, his money, his nice carriage, his house, and then most of his belonging. Yankle and his wife moved to a small, one-room cabin, with a leaking roof, no floor, and no heat, and brought the only few things they had left; one table, and one bed.

This man, Yankle, had a favorite mitzva which he made sure to keep in the best way possible every year – getting an Etrog on Sukkot. so when his situation got really bad, he started saving and saving and saving, and finally, when sukkot came along, he had enough money to by a decent etrog with, and he was happy. The next year, Yankle’s wife told him: “Yankle! we are down to nothing! We do not have anything we can sell anymore! I think this year you’ll have to give up on the mitzva of the etrog”. Yankle became terribly saddened, and decided he’d still try. He saved and he saved and he saved, but when tishrei, and rosh hashana came along he just didn’t have enough money. His wife, who knew he’d want to do anything in order to get the etrog, told him: “don’t think that you can get passed me! I will be on guard – we just can’t afford to buy an etrog!”. So, motzaei yom kippur, Yankle realized he had to get an etrog. It was this urge, this love of mitzvot that called within him “Yankle! Yankle! Etrog! Etrog!”. By where would he get the money from?

So the only valuable thing that they still had in their house was this old ring, given to Yankle’s wife by her mother who got it form generation and generations before her, supposedly from Sara Imeinu. This ring was extremely valuable to Yankle’s wife, but he, in his urge to get the etrog reasoned that she would understand. And so, three days before sukkot, Yankle set away to the nearest city where he could by an etrog. At the city market, he traded in the ring for the biggest, most beautiful etrog he could find. Yankle was jumping with happiness. The night before sukkot Yankle got back to town. It was late, and he sure hoped that his wife wasn’t up “probably she didn’t even see it was gone” said Yankle to himself.

However, when he entered the house through the window, who was waiting for him? His wife! She jumped on him, and started beating him, kicking and throwing her hands around, and calling him all kinds of not so nice names. In all the mess, Yankle had to protect himself, and his wife was getting her anger out on him, and the etrog? The etrog fell on the floor, and its Pitam broke off. (an etrog without a pitam is passul and isn’t worth anything.) Yankle and his wife stood silent and looked at the etrog, and then each other. Yankle spoke first: “my dear wife! A few years ago we had our wealth; a few days ago we had the ring; a few minutes ago we had an etrog with pitam; but now, all we have is each other. So lets dance.”

Discussion: - What did Yankle think when he had nothing left?
- How much more meaningful do you think his prayers are going to be on sukkot, now that he has only his wife and himself to pray for? That idea is called “Tfiallt HaRash Te’erav Lefanecha” – The poor man’s prayer will be sweet in front of you (G-d). a man who is so poor but still prays shows a much greater emunah and has much more kavanah in his davening and relationship with G-d.

The Ring Game or Who Has the Ring?
The kids sit in a circle, and one is chosen to stand in the middle. The kids that they have to pass a “ring” (or any other small object) between them behind their backs while the kid in the middle is looking at them. At any given point a person may choose to keep the ring and “fake pass”. Even if he fake passes, the round of passing must end. Go for a round or two. The person in the middle has to guess who has the ring at the end of the round; he has three tries, if he can’t guess, the group wins, if he guesses right that person has to stand in the middle.

The point of the game, really, is to have something to do with a ring, to make them remember the story. In addition, though, you can say that the everyone’s the winner if the person in the middle couldn’t guess it – so that even though only one person has the ring, everyone else is left with the action that they did – and that’s the true reward. You don’t have to actually be holding something in the end in order to be a winner, or an “ashir”.

**Do you like your Neighbors?**

The kids sit on chairs in a circle. One person stands in the middle (a group leader could start) and asks a person in the circle: do you like your neighbors? The persona asked may choose to say yes or no. If yes, then his “neighbors” (the people sitting at either side of him) change sits. If no, then he is asked: who do you like? And he has to say any group of people, i.e. people with black hair, white shirts, blue eyes, people in ___ grade, in ___ school, who are Jewish, who love groups, who love basketball, baseball, art, etc. possibilities are endless!! Those people have to get up and switch sits. Whenever there is a change of sits (for either a yes or a no) the person in the middle has to try and sit down, too. Make sure there are not enough sits in the circle, so that one person will always be left standing. The person left standing will be the next person asking the question.

**DISCUSSION:** The point of the game, and the point of the activity is simple: what is one thing we almost always have? Neighbors, people around us. What the story shows, and what this game touches on, is the fact that our neighbors are always there, and if we’re united, and have each other, and can be happy with each other – that’s all we really need. In this week’s parsha, Bnei Yisrael complains about getting Man and that they want something else. It’s important to always be happy with what you have, otherwise you will always want more and more and never be satisfied in life.

**LEADER TIP:** Can you imagine a world where there wasn’t competition? Where everyone had the same amount of money? How can we be happy with what we have when we know that having more would be helpful? Would it really be helpful though?
Before you read: When something's important to us, we shouldn't give up easily. This week's parsha (Num. 9:6-14) tells of how some people who wanted a second chance to come closer to God persisted so much, that God told Moses to add an extra clause into the Torah so they could! When it comes to accomplishing our worthwhile goals - persistence pays.

CAMPING ON THE PHONE

"Busy again!" Sheila said, as the phone buzzed its 'busy' signal for what felt like the thousandth time. She and her friend, Amy, had been really psyched about applying as volunteer counselors for Camp Care, an amazing, action-packed summer camp for special-needs kid. Besides the free trips to all the great places the camp took the kids and all the celebrity visitors they would meet, both girls really felt dedicated to helping special kids feel joy in their lives, and felt they had the patience and care to help make that happen.

But after more than an hour of trying to get through to the special 'volunteers hotline' which had been published in the paper and was going to be setting up interview appointments for applicants for one day only, it seemed that hundreds of other kids had gotten the same idea.

"Well, I guess we should just forget it," Sheila said glumly. "It seems like Camp Care is going to be spending its summer without us."

"What do you mean 'forget it'?" Amy asked. "The ad said the phone line would be open until late afternoon."

"Huh!" Sheila harrumphed. "I'll bet there's not even anyone answering the phone. And even if there is, I'm sure all the counselor positions will be taken up by people who got earlier interview appointments than we would, even if we get through. Do you have any idea how many kids apply to a place like that? My cousin volunteered almost ten years ago and he still talks about how amazing the experience was."

"Well, isn't that all the more reason we should keep trying?" Amy said, dialing and then knitting her brow at the yet again busy signal. Sheila shook her head and stuffed her phone and other things into her carry bag. "I've had enough," she said. "It's a beautiful day and we've already wasted enough of it. I'm turning off my phone, going to the lake, soaking up some shade and feeding the ducks. You should come too."
Amy shook her head. "Uh, uh. I want to keep trying. I just think it would be so great for the kids I could help - and for me."

Sheila shrugged, shot Amy a pitying look, and flipping her bag over her shoulder, pranced off.

Hours later...

DAH-DAH-DAH The busy signal, which had become like a mantra in Amy's ear, buzzed yet again. *Maybe Sheila had been right,* Amy sighed. There were less than five minutes left of calling time and all she had for her hours of efforts was a sore redial finger and a missed-day at the lake.

She was about to turn off her phone, when she said to herself, *This is something really important to me and I'm going to see it through to the end.*

Amy dialed and got ready to click off again at the inevitable busy signal when she was startled to hear a voice.

"Hello?"

"Is this Camp Care?" Amy asked, excited.

"It is ... I mean, was," the tired voice said. "Calling hours are over and we're packing up."

"Oh, no!" Amy groaned. "I've been trying to reach you for six hours!" she said. "Can't you please just sign me up for an interview, too?"

"I'm sorry," said the voice - then there was a pause. "Did you say six hours?"

"Yes!" Amy sputtered, "Straight out."

There was another pause. Then the voice said; "You know, that kind of commitment is really just the thing these kids - and our camp - need. I'll tell you what, I'm putting you at the top of our interview list. Come to our office tomorrow at nine o'clock sharp; ask for the assistant director and I'll see what I can do."

"Wow, Amy, you're sooo lucky," Sheila said when Amy's Camp Care acceptance form came in the mail. "You are going to be having the summer of a lifetime, while I'm going to be sitting at this boring old lake ... feeding ducks."

Amy nodded and tried to be sympathetic, but she knew that luck had nothing to do with it and that even though she'd be volunteering; she'd already been well paid - by her persistence.
DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

Q. Is there ever a time that persistence is a negative thing?
A. Certainly if someone's persisting at accomplishing something that would harm himself or others, then the persistence is negative. Furthermore, when we try sincerely and with all of our efforts at accomplishing something and don’t succeed, it could be a sign that ultimately it wouldn't be for our best to do so and it may be wise to let it go.

Q. How can we apply the concept of persistence to our daily relationships?
A. One way is to respect and be open to the persistence of others. If someone asks something of us, even if we at first refuse - if it’s a positive and legitimate request, we might allow ourselves to reconsider if he asks us again.

LEADER TIP: Was there ever a time that you pushed yourself harder than you ever thought you could?
Aharon HaKohen

Aharon, the elder brother of Moshe, a great-grandson of Levi, was chosen by God to be the first Kohen Gadol. He first served in his official capacity as Kohen Gadol at the inauguration of the mishkan of the month of Nissan, one year after the Exodus. His service and prayer brought the Divine Presence to the mishkan. He was inaugurated by being dressed in the eight garments unique to the Kohen Gadol and was anointed with oil.

Aharon and his sons were the first Kohanim to officiate at the mishkan, the portable Temple which traveled with the Jewish people in the desert for forty years. This Tabernacle was located in the center of the camp. The encampment of the Kohanim and the Levites surrounded the mishkan. The remaining tribes surrounded them.

Aharon HaKohen had four sons. His two eldest sons, Nadav and Avihu, were struck dead at the mishkan’s inauguration when, although they were not commanded to do so, they attempted to bring an incense offering. This tragic event emphasized the strictness and seriousness of the holy service, the men who were meant to offer sacrifices became systematic groups themselves.

Elazar and Itamar, Aharon’s remaining sons, served as Kohanim along with their father. Although Pinchas, the son of Elazar, was not officially born into the role of Kohen, his zealously in the defense of God’s honor earned for him the title of Kohen, a unique event in Jewish history.

At the age of 123, on the first of Av, Aharon died, at which time, Elazar, Aharon’s eldest son, was dressed in the garments and anointed Kohen Gadol, in his stead and put in charge of the Levi'im and the service.

The line of Kohanim Gadolim passed through Elazar’s descendants for many generations until the time of the Judges, when Eli HaKohen, himself one of the Judges, became Kohen Gadol. Eli was a descendant of Itamar. However, Eli’s sons were found wanting of the perfect character and temperament behooved of a Kohen.

Until the construction of the First Temple, the Kohanim Gadolim continued to be descendants of Itamar. With Tzadok, the first Kohen Gadol of the First Temple, the line of Kohanim Gadolim returned to Elazar’s descendants.
"Boruch... Gomail Chasadim Tovim L'ahmo Yisroel.

" .............Blessed are You..... Who bestows benificent kindness upon His people Israel."

Our Sages teach us that Hashem is constantly performing acts of kindness for the people of Israel. As we go about our daily lives, behind the scenes, Hashem is protecting us from our enemies, fighting off diseases, arranging for money to arrive just in the nick of time, steering rain clouds in another direction, making sure that a drunk driver takes a different street, keeping Sadaam Hussein and other wicked people occupied so they can't gang up on Israel, and making a bird fly past your house so the mosquito with a big appetite doesn't sting you.

We must take the time to think about all the wonderful kind acts that Hashem bestows upon us. Big or small, the Creator of the Universe knows our every move and watches over each and every one of us.

LEADER TIP: What is one moment in your life that you know couldn't have happened without Hashem’s kindness, care, and help?
This Week in Jewish History

June 6th, 1982

The Start of the 1982 Lebanon War

The 1982 Lebanon War - Operation Peace of the Galilee - Mivtsa Shlom HaGalil or Mivtsa Sheleg), and later colloquially also known in Israel as the First Lebanon War, began June 6, 1982, when the Israel Defense Forces invaded southern Lebanon. The Government of Israel ordered the invasion as a response to the assassination attempt against Israel's ambassador to the United Kingdom, Shlomo Argov by the Abu Nidal Organization.

After attacking PLO, Syrian and Muslim Lebanese forces, Israel occupied southern Lebanon. Surrounded in West Beirut and subject to heavy bombardment, the PLO and the Syrian forces negotiated passage from Lebanon with the aid of international peacekeepers.

After the 1948 Arab-Israeli conflict, Lebanon became home to more than 110,000 Palestinian refugees from their homes in present day Israel. In 1970 and again in 1971, the PLO was engaged in the attempted overthrow of the Jordanian monarchy, which routed a large number of Palestinian fighters and refugees into Lebanon. By 1975, they numbered more than 300,000, creating an informal state-within-a-state in South Lebanon. The PLO became a powerful force and played an important role in the Lebanese Civil War. Continual violence occurred between Israel and the PLO from 1968, peaking in Operation Litani.

FIND...

- Aharon
- Menorah
- Pesach Sheni
- Amud Anan
- Amud Esh
- Vayehi Binsoa
- Manna
- Quail

STAT LINE OF THE WEEK- BEHALOTCHA

36th of the 54 sedras;
3rd of 10 in Bamidbar
Written on 240 lines in a Torah, ranks 10
16 Parshiyot; 11 open, 5 closed
One of the parshiyot (a S'TUMA) is separated from the parshiyot before and after it by more than blank space (as is usual) - namely, backwards NUNs. Consequently, this parsha is the “loneliest” of all parshiyot in the Torah
136 p'sukim, ranks 11th, 4th in Bamidbar
1840 words, ranks 12th, 3rd in Bamidbar
7055 letters, ranks 12th, 4th in Bamidbar
MITZVOT
5 mitzvot; 3 positives, 2 prohibitions.
To illustrate the “lopsided” distribution of mitzvot in the Torah, Behalotcha has more mitzvot than 28 other sedras, and fewer mitzvot than 25 sedras. Only 5 mitzvot and it’s in the top half.
TRIVIA QUESTION OF THE WEEK
WHERE DID BAR KOCHBA AND HIS WARRIORS LIVE AND TRAIN FOR BATTLES AGAINST THE ROMANS?

For more info please feel free to contact us at youth@youngisrael.org

Email your answers to YOUTH@YOUNGISRAEL.ORG along with your NAME and AGE for a chance to win AWESOME PRIZES! Each correct answer will enter your name into a raffle that will happen once a month. Behatzlacha!

THIS JUST IN!
- The number of possible ways of playing the first four moves per side in a game of chess is 318,979,564,000.
- The sentence "The quick brown fox jumps over the lazy dog." uses every letter in the alphabet.
- The only 15 letter word that can be spelled without repeating a letter is "uncopyrightable".
- Stewardesses' is the longest word that is typed with only the left hand.

Parsha Points to Ponder...

We read in the beginning of this Sidra the instructions that were given to Aharon, namely, that he was to light the Menorah in the משכן. Rashi asks why this item follows immediately after what we read in the end of the previous Sidra. That Sidra ends by telling us about the sacrifices that were brought by the prince of each tribe at the inauguration of theמזבח in theמשכן. He answers that when Aharon saw that neither he nor his tribe of Levi had a role in the dedication of theמזבח, he became downcast. Hashem consoled him and said: "שלך גדולה משלהם", "Your participation will be greater than theirs for you will light and trim the Menorah". (Num. 8,2) This response is quite questionable. Had he said you can go into the Holy of Holies of Yom Kippur, something that no other Kohen can do, that would have been a consolation. The fact is that lighting the Menorah was not exclusively the responsibility of the Kohen Gadol. This act could be performed by any Jew and certainly by a Kohen who is not the Kohen Gadol. How can this then console Aharon? The truth, however, is the opposite of what most people think. It is commonly thought that greatness means doing something that no one else can do. The Torah’s ethical opinion does not agree with this. On the contrary, if a person who is important and distinguished does something that anyone can do, and he doesn’t say this is below my dignity, but does it wholeheartedly, then he is truly great. That was Aharon’s consolation. He was given a holy task that was not exclusively his, but he would do it nobly and sincerely. That would be a great honor for him.
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