



PURIM BOOKS
at the Beth Sholom Library
Compiled by Kathe Pinchuck, MLIS



Adelson, Leone. *The Mystery Bear: A Purim Story*. Illustrated by Naomi Howland (Clarion Books, 2004; ISBN: 0-618-33725-3). When he awakens from hibernation, Little Bear's hunger leads him to a house where a Purim celebration is just beginning, and the celebrants mistake him for a costumed guest.

Belsky, Judith Benoliel. *Tova and Esty's Purim Surprise*. Illustrated by Bina Gewirtz (Feldheim, 1981; ISBN: 0-87306-248-5). Cousins Tova and Esty celebrate Purim with costumes, hearing megillah and delivering shalach manos, but first Esty helps Tova clean up her room.

Chaikin, Miriam. *Esther*. Illustrated by Vera Rosenberry (JPS, 1987; ISBN 0-8276-0272-3). Retells of how Esther became Queen of Persia and used her influence to stop the evil Haman from killing all the Jews.

Chaikin, Miriam. *Make Noise, Make Merry: The Story and Meaning of Purim*. Illustrated by DEMI (Clarion Books, 1983; ISBN 0-89919-424-9). Retells the biblical story of the rescue of the Persian Jews from Haman's plot to destroy them. Explains the Purim symbols and tells how the feast is celebrated.

Cohen, Barbara. *Here Come the Purim Players!* Illustrated by Shoshana Mekibel (UAHC Press, 1984; ISBN: 9—874-0645-7). A Purim play is presented by the residents of the old Prague ghetto.

Davis, Linda. *A Purim Story*. Illustrated by Y.E. Taub (Feldheim, 1988; ISBN: 0-87306-454-2). A father reads the story of Purim, in rhyme, as his children anticipate the coming holiday.

Feder, Harriet K. *It Happened in Shushan: A Purim Story*. Illustrated by Rosalyn Schanzer (Kar-Ben, 1988; ISBN: 0-930494-75-X). Rebus-like picture and word narration with repetitive questions make this a good Purim story for young readers.

Fishman, Cathy Goldberg. *On Purim*. Illustrated by Melanie W. Hall (Athenum, 2000; ISBN: 0-689-82392-4). Uses the story of a family's preparations for the Jewish holiday of Purim to explain the traditions connected with this celebration.

Gelman, Rita Golden. *Queen Esther Saves Her People*. Illustrated by Frane Lessac (Scholastic 1998, ISBN: 0-590-47025-6). Retells the story of how a beautiful Jewish girl became the Queen of Persia and saved her people from death at the hands of the evil Haman.

Goldin, Barbara Diamond. *Cakes and Miracels: A Purim Tale*. Illustrated by Erika Weihs (Viking, 1991; ISBN: 0-670-83047-X). "Young blind Hershel find that he has special gifts he can use to help his mother make cookies for Purim."

Gettinger, Shifrah. *A Very Special Gift*. Illustrated by Tova Leff (Hachai, 1993; ISBN: 0-922613-52-4). Gali works hard to get her mother a special plate for the hamantashen.

Gerstein, Mordicai. *Queen Esther the Morning Star* (Simon & Schuster, 2000; ISBN: 0-689-81372-4). Retells the story of how a beautiful Jewish girl became the Queen of Persia and saved her people from death at the hands of the evil Haman.

Geller, Beverly Mach. *The Mitzvah Girl* (Gefen Books, 2000; ISBN: 965-229-203-6). Shira participates in all the mitzvot of Purim.

Gottlieb, Yaffa Leba. *The Shushan Chronicle: The Story of Purim Based on the Midrash* (Hachai, 1991; ISBN: 0-922613-39-7). The story of Purim told in short chapters and based on midrashim, which add detail and context to the account in the megillah.

Halpern, Chaiky. *The Hamantash that Ran Away* (Feldheim, 1981; ISBN: 0-87306-250-7). King Rimpu of the kingdom of Miroop likes things to be big. When the cooks make a giant hamantashen, he runs away and teaches the king a valuable lesson.

Hoffman, Amalia. *Purim Goodies*. (Gefen Publishing House, 2007; ISBN: 978-965229389-3). When two girls, groyseh Adella and kleineh Adella, are sent to deliver Purim goodies by the families for whom they work, they eat the contents of the trays and cause a rift between the two households. The rabbi of the town reminds the families that there are people who have nothing to eat, and the two couples make up.

Kahn, Katherine Janus. *Purim Fun for Little Hands* (Kar-Ben, 1994; ISBN: 978-0929371481). Crafts, puzzles and games appropriate for the holiday.

Kropf, Latifa Berry. *It's Purim Time* (Kar-Ben, 2005; ISBN: 9781580131537). From *Publishers Weekly*: The Jewish festival of Purim (March 25) takes center stage in a preschool classroom in this photo-essay introduction to the history and customs surrounding the celebration. It captures kids at their smiliest or deep in concentration as they make King Ahashuerus's crown, or Mordechai's beard for a play telling the heroic story of Queen Esther, who saved the Jews from evil Haman's death order. Ideas and instructions for crafts and snacks are included.

Nerlove, Miriam. *Purim* (Albert Whitman, 1992). A young boy becomes caught up in the excitement of the Purim celebration as the rabbi relates the tale of the courageous Queen Esther and the evil Haman.

Rouss, Sylvia A. *Sammy Spider's First Purim*. Illustrated by Katherine Janus Kahn (Kar-ben, 1999; ISBN: 1-58013-062-3). A young spider wants to join in as the Shapiro family celebrates Purim and make all kinds of noises.

Schotter, Roni. *Purim Play* (Little, Brown & Company, 1998; ISBN: 9780316775182). Frannie is upset because an elderly neighbor is going to play the part of Haman in this year's Purim play, but Mrs. Teplitzky surprises everyone with her acting ability. Includes facts about Purim and a recipe for hamantaschen, a traditional Purim pastry.

Schram, Peninnah. *The Purim Costume*. Illustrated by Tammy L. Keiser (URJ, 2001; 0-8074-0874-3). When Rebecca chooses a new Purim costume, she learn about the importance of Vashti to the events of the holiday.

Silberman, Shoshana. *The Whole Megillah (Almost)*. Pictures by Katherine Kahn (Kar-Ben, 1990: ISBN: 0-929371-23-2). Includes abbreviated chapter summaries of the Book of Esther, commntaries, a play script, and music and costume ideas.

Silverman, Maida. *Festival of Esther*. Illustrated by Carolyn S. Ewing (Simon & Schuster, 1989; ISBN: 0-671-67663-6). Explains the history and meaning of Purim and includes a traditional holiday song and a recipe for hamantashen.

Simon, Norma. *Happy Purim Night*. Illustrations by Ayala Gordon (United Synagogue, 1959). Ruth and David make hamantashen, hear the megillah, twirl groggers, dress up in costumes, and enjoy the holiday with their family.

Simpson, Lesley. *The Purim Surprise*. Illustrated by Peter Church. (Kar-Ben, 2004. ISBN: 1-58013-090-9). Naomi and her mother have moved to a new town right before Purim and Naomi's birthday. She reluctantly agrees to help deliver the Mishloach Manot to strangers. But Naomi's mother has tucked a secret invitation into them, so everyone comes to their new home for a birthday and Purim party. The book illustrates the true meaning of the holiday as well as a child's concerns about moving and having her birthday remembered.

Topek, Susan Remick. *A Costume for Noah: A Purim Story*. Illustrated by Sally Springer (Kar-Ben, 1995; ISBN: 0-929371-90-9). Noah's classmates are busy making costumes for the Purim Parage, but he is preoccupied with the imminent arrival of a new baby.

Wolkstein, Diane. *Esther's Story*. Illustrated by Juan Wijngarrd (Morrow Junior Books, 1996; ISBN: 0-688-12127-6). Beautiful illustrations accompany the story of Purim as told by Esther.

Zalben, Jane Breskin. *Goldie's Purim* (Henry Holt, 1991; ISBN: 0-8050-1227-3). Although Goldie is scared at first, she overcomes her stage fright to play Queen Esther in the synagogue's celebration of Purim.

Zucker, Jonny. *It's Party Time: A Purim Story*. Illustrated by Jan Barger Cohen (Barrons, 2003; ISBN: 0-7641-2268-1). Very cute summary of Purim customs and mitzvoth for young readers.

Zwerin, Raymond A and Marcus, Audrey Friedman. *A Purim Album*. Illustrated by Marlene Lobell Ruthen (UAHC, 1981). Robin describes the pictures taken during the Purim play and the lessons she learned.