

# Videos for Passover 2005

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*The Afikoman*, BJE.NY, color animation, 10 minutes, Hebrew.

This video delightfully conveys *Pesach* rituals, seder songs and blessings, plus the beguiling story of the *afikoman* which is stolen not once, but again and again.

*Alef..Bet..Blast-Off: Lights of Freedom*, Ergo, 1998, color animation, 30 minutes.

With a spritz of his magic *matzah meal*, Mitzvah Mouse whisks the characters back in time to become personal slaves to Pharaoh. Blast-Off is punctuated with humorous characters (featuring Bermuda Schwartz,) and songs. Grades 1-4.

*The Animated Haggadah*, Scopus Films, 1986, 24 minutes, color. Available in DVD/VHS.

Skillfully animated with clay figures and filled with music, this video retells the story of the Jewish exodus from Egypt. Segments about the ten plagues, the four sons, slavery in Egypt, idol worship and the seder are full of subtleties that can be explored with the students to enrich their understanding of *Pesach*. Grades 4 -7.

*Every Day a Holiday- Pesach*. Jeffrey Liberman, BJE. Boston, 1982, 20 minutes, color.

Children learn about the holiday through short skits, pantomime, graphics, and puppets. The video presents the history of the Exodus, traditions and symbols of the seder, and different uses of the Hebrew letter '*mem*'. Grades PS-K.

*The Four Sons: A Guide to Passover*, The Jewish Federation of Chicago, 1988, 37 minutes, color.

Unable to share the holiday with their parents four adult brothers learn the proper order of the seder and the significance of the *Haggadah* from a deli owner (Theodore Bikel) and his wife. Grades 6 -Adult.

***Let's Bake Matzos***, Rabbi Yosef Goldstein, 1978, color.

Shows the step by step *shmura matzah* preparation process, from the flour mill where the kernels are ground to the hand baking itself. The processing of kosher wine is presented at the conclusion of the video. Teacher's guide available. Grades 6-Adult.

***Make A Wish, Molly***, Phoenix Films, Inc., 1998, color, 30 minutes.

Molly, a young Russian Jewish girl, is very excited about going to her first American birthday party. Her mother explains to her that the party falls on Passover and there are certain food restriction including not eating the birthday cake. Molly is faced with the moral dilemma of upholding Jewish law and tradition, or disobeying in order to fit in with the other children. Based on the book of the same title by Barbara Cohen. Grades 3 - 5.

***My Exodus***, Torah Aura Prod. 1984, 30 minutes, color.

Joel Grishaver illustrates the story of the Exodus with cartoon drawings, as several children, ages 8-11, give personal accounts of their experience of leaving Egypt. Grades 3-5.

***Passover Adventure***, Kastel Films, 30 minutes, color.

Lively, fast-paced and well produced, this video takes the viewer on a contemporary Exodus from Egypt. Teacher's guide available. Grades 4-Adult.

***Passover at Bubbe's***, Pan-Imago, Inc. 1995, 45 minutes, color.

Delightful video featuring muppet-like characters that help Bubbe prepare for the seder. Surprised by a talking *haggadah*, they are magically whisked back to Egypt during the time of the Pharaoh. They experience the trials of captivity and ultimately, a triumphant escape to freedom. Contains original songs as well as traditional favorites. Grades PreK-3.

***A Passover Seder***, Kids Vision, 1994, 30 minutes, color.

A straightforward presentation of seder highlights. The animation, original illustrations, music, and live action sequences are professionally conveyed and should sustain the learner's attention. There is a brief introduction of the holiday by Eli Wiesel. Grades 4-Adult.

*A Rugrats Passover*, Nickelodeon Video, 1996, 25 minutes, animated and color.

The Rugrats hear the story of Passover from Grandpa Boris, who turns it into a riveting adventure. Three year old Angelica casts herself as the first female Pharaoh and the Rugrat babies as the Hebrews. A rather imaginative retelling that preschoolers love.

*The Seder on Matzah Ball Planet*. Sisu, 2004, 30 minutes, color. Available in DVD/VHS.

Puppets, music and animation plus a zany story make this a laugh out-loud fun video set in outer space and Cleveland. PS-2.



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