

VOL.1 | SUKKOT 2020

Sukkos Sparks

Compare your Sukkos Minhagim
to those around the world!!

Divrai Torah from your friends and
teachers!!

Sukkos funfacts!!!



A note from Mrs. Jacobson

As we approach the holiday of Sukkot, I wanted to share with you an interesting phenomenon about bamboo. It takes bamboo five years to grow. During the first four years, you plant the seeds and water the soil but nothing happens. Finally, in the fifth year you see a bud and then amazingly, the bamboo tree shoots up to the sky; within six weeks the bamboo grows over ninety feet! School can be so frustrating! You don't always get the grades that you want.

You don't always understand the point of the lesson. Be patient! Growth takes time and perseverance. Every ounce of energy, every minute of class time makes your roots a little stronger. You may not see the change right away.

Continue to "water" your minds with effort and tenacity and eventually you will see growth and success. As you sit in your Sukkah, take a moment to look up at the bamboo, and remember, a little patience and a lot of effort is what you truly need to grow. Chag Sameach!

-Mrs Jacobson



Is that a fact??

Sometimes Esrogs
split while they
grow and become
what is called a
Buddha's Hand



On average it
takes
**14 Minutes
and 3
people**
to roll a Torah
back to the
beginning

In ancient China

Hadassim

were use to cure a
common cold



SUKKOS AROUND THE

World...



France

In France their Sukkahs are decorated with blue and yellow paper chains, rose branches and seasonal fruits like pears, apples and grapes. Some hang a red onion and rooster feathers on the door to ward off the Evil Eye.



Italy

Italian sukkahs are decorated with engraved walls that feature pictures from Torah. Their decorations are made from detailed paper cuts and they eat round cake to symbolize the harvest cycle.



Morocco

In Morocco Sukkahs are built on the rooftops and are lined with curtains. In many Moroccan sukkahs, a beautifully decorated chair is placed to represent Eliyahu HaNavi.

PRODUCT REVIEWS

Plastic Shofers

By: Serena Abboudi 8G

At first I was going to give this a good review until after that day. It was before Rosh HaShanah so we got my brother a yellow plastic shofer. We all thought that it was a good idea and it said next to it that it sounds like a real shofer. Two days later it came. First of all, it came late. Second, it's so loud you can't sleep. Last of all, it doesn't even sound like a shofer. If anything it sounds like a duck. I won't be surprised if a flock of ducks comes out when you use it. At first it was funny but then it just got annoying. My head still hurts from all that noise. He walked around the house with it. The point I am making is that this is not the best buy.

Honey Cookies

By: Elisheva Farca, 7G

These honey cookies are pretty good. They are delicious and sweet. They bring honey to the table just a little sticky! Although there is more to their story. These honey cookies are very good. But they are also very fattening. When I first got these they were stale. I tried it and threw them right out. The second time we got them, they weren't bad. They were just very crumbly. The price for these honey cookies were \$27.99! I would NOT get these again but make sure to check the date first. Mine were stale and they did not taste good. I have three reasons why 1. At first they gave me a wrong box and the store said they did not expire 2. They are extremely fattening after two cookies I felt full, and three they are so expensive seriously who would buy cookies for 27.99\$. Overall I would not recommend buying these cookies again. These honey cookies were in a circular shape and looked very hard. I heard people eating them. It smelled like honey and sugar tasted like honey and a little crumbly. But overall I would give these a 2 out of 5..

My Sukkah

By Reva Schreiber , 5G

My sukkah is so helpful, you use it for the holiday, Sukkot. When I go inside my sukkah I feel so happy. You could break the sukkah apart to use it for next year! I had it for years and it's still in good use. We eat meals in it every Sukkot with a big table and we still have room to walk. I recommended you buy a sukkah for Sukkot. There is just one bad thing, it's that it takes up so much space, but other than that it's great!

Cramped Quarters

By: Zehava Isaacson, 7G

As Sukkot was coming closer there were many ads for new sukkahs. I decided to buy a new one and found a very cheap sukkah for only \$437 on Amazon. When it arrived, 2 days before sukkot, I quickly set it up. Once it was set up I went inside to marvel at my hard work. It was tiny!! Confused, I checked to see how big it was again. Our sukkah was 24 by 36 inches long. INCHES! "Oh no," I thought, "it's too late to get a new one!" I sighed and said, "Guess we can't have guests then." Compared to the other sukkot mine looked like a playhouse for my daughter, a really tall playhouse. "It's a good thing it's 15 feet tall" I thought aloud. This sukkah is really meant for 1 person. How is an entire family supposed to fit. So our sukkot for 2020 included a lot of standing, and not a lot of walking.

WE ASKED YOU

TO SHARE SOME WORDS OF TORAH.
HERE ARE JUST A FEW RESPONSES:

"Who has to be in the sukkah?

The passuk says "בִּסְכַּת תֵּשְׁבוּ שִׁבְעַת יָמִים כָּל־הָאֶזְרָח בְּיִשְׂרָאֵל יֵשְׁבוּ :בִּסְכַּת: *You shall live in booths seven days; all citizens in Israel shall live in booths.* The ramban comments on the word "הָאֶזְרָח" and says that its not enough for 1 person per family to sit in the sukkah and instead everyone should."

-Faiga Gordon, 8G

"The Midrash says that the lulav, etrog, hadasim and aravot all represent a different kind of jew. The etrog represents the tzaddik . The lulav is a person who is mostly involved in Torah study. The hadassim, are the Jew who is involved in doing good deeds but does not have the capability to study Torah. The arovot is the Jew who doesn't learn torah. Even though we are all different we sit in the sukkah together because we are all commanded to and this way we are united"

-Michal Benovitz, 7G

"The Hebrew letters of סִכָּה represents the number of walls for a kosher sukkah 4,3,2.5"

-Shalva Laster, 8G

"Sukkot is referred to as the time of joy, because we are supposed to be happy on sukkot."

-Raizy Friedman, 7G

"Thinking about this Dvar Torah, I had a question. Why do we hang fruit in the sukkah? Because sukkos is known as "The holiday of harvest", and hanging from would show our thanks to Hashem."

-Bracha Pomoranz, 7G

SUKKOS

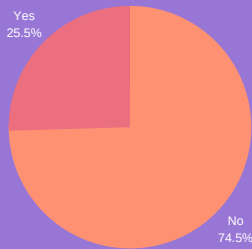
STATS

We surveyed the middle school to find out more about their Sukkos minhagim. See how yours compare!!

Do You Have Fruit Hanging in your Sukkah?



Have You Ever Slept in the Sukkah?



Do you Sit in the Sukkah on Shmini Atzeret?



What is Your Sukkah Made out of?

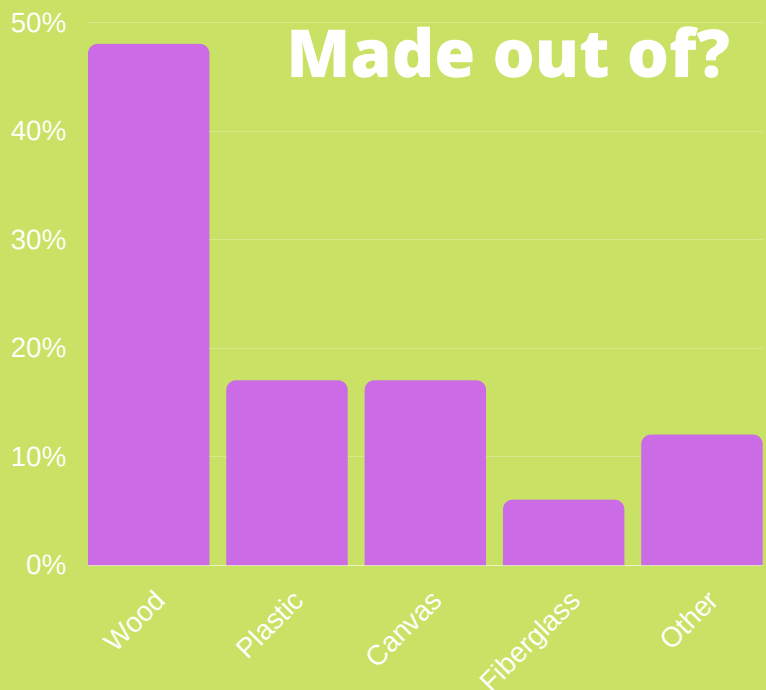


TABLE TORAH

Question: Can you build a
Sukkah on a boat?

Answer: In Perek Bet of Mesechet
Sukkah the Mishna Discusses
building Sukkahs in strange places

העושה סוכתו בראש העגלה או בראש הספינה, כשרה, ועולין לה ביום
טוב. בראש האילן או על גבי גמל, כשרה, ואין עולין לה ביום טוב. שנים
באילן ואחת בידי אדם, או שנים בידי אדם ואחת באילן, כשרה, ואין עולין
לה ביום טוב. שלש בידי אדם ואחת באילן, כשרה, ועולין לה ביום טוב.
זה הכלל, כל שגטל האילן ויכולה לעמוד בפני עצמה, כשרה, ועולין לה
ביום טוב:

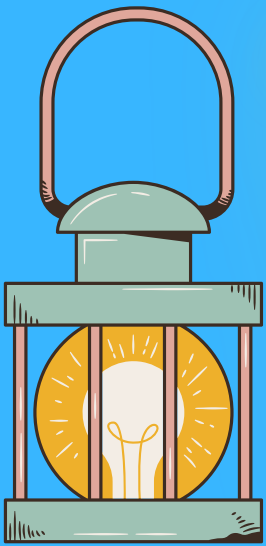
One who makes his sukkah on the top of a wagon, or on the deck of a ship, it
is valid and one may go up into it on the festival. If he made it on the top of a
tree, or on the back of a camel, it is valid, but one may not go up into it on the
festival. If the tree [formed] two [walls] and one was made by the hands of
man, or if two were made by the hands of man and one was formed by the
tree, it is valid, but one may not go up into it on the festival. If three walls were
made by the hands of man and one was formed by the tree, it is valid and one
may go up into it on the festival. This is the general rule: in any case in which
if the tree was removed the [sukkah] could stand on its own, it is valid and one
may go up into it on the festival.

TABLE TORAH

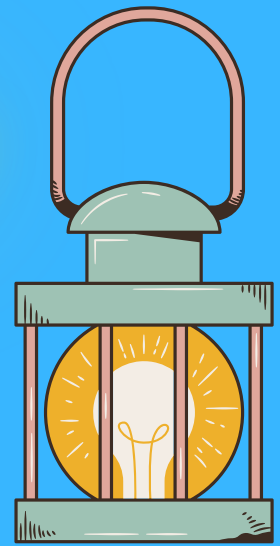
Food for Thought:

**Why do you think a
person would need
to build a sukkah
on a boat?**





The Lantern Swinger



It was a dark and cloudy night in New York. The year was 1904 and a train waited to cross a draw bridge. In those days, there was a man whose job was to stand on the bridge and swing a lantern when it was unsafe for the train to pass. When he heard the call of the train's whistle, if the bridge was up, he would swing the lantern. If the lantern was not swung, the conductor would know that the bridge was down and safe for passage.

Early one Friday morning at about 3 a.m., a train crashed into the water. It was a serious accident, a great tragedy, and of course everyone wanted to know who was responsible. Suspicion naturally fell on the lantern swinger. After all, he was the one responsible for swinging his lantern if the bridge was up and could not be crossed. But the lantern swinger insisted that he had swung the lantern and since no one knew if he was telling the truth the case was brought to court.

"What is your name?" the lawyer asked. "Mr. Lantern Swinger," he responded "Where were you early on the Friday morning in question?" "At my post," he responded calmly. "Did you see the oncoming train?" "Yes I did." "Then tell the court what happened when you saw the oncoming train. Did you or didn't you swing your lantern?" A hush fell

over the courtroom and quietly, the lantern swinger began to stutter . . . "Yyy . . . ye . . . yes. I d-d-did swing the lantern," he finally blurted out.

At the end of the day the Lantern Swinger's lawyer questioned him, "I've been defending you for weeks!! I've worked day and night! You told me you were innocent. Why did you stutter like a guilty man?" The lantern swinger looked sadly at his lawyer. "You asked me the wrong question," he said. "You asked if I swung my lantern. You forgot to ask if the lantern was lit."

As we emerge from the Yamim Noraim we find ourselves leaving days filled with tfillah and spirituality behind us. Sometimes as we move further away we fall into routine and forget that our lanterns need to lit. This year let's make sure our tfillot are filled with kavanah and our lanterns stay lit all year long.

**** Thought question: What is one thing that I can do this year to ensure that my Davening will stay meaningful until next year?**