



## LEARN TORAH, BE HAPPY

ללמוד

BY TALIA BINSTOCK, 4TH GRADER AT RAMAZ

On Simchat Torah, we celebrate that we are restarting the whole Torah, and that we can learn it all again. We read the Torah again, and it's special because each time we read it we are different and we learn new things. We worked hard to get the Torah, and it's a really special thing to celebrate.

A few years ago, Simchat Torah was also my birthday. It was during Covid, so we were all in the park for KJYD groups. I remember that we kept talking about how we were restarting Torah, and that we were eating candy to celebrate it. Candy is fun and happy and that's how we feel when we get to restart. This experience makes me feel excited every single year.

Rosh Hashanah is about thinking about the past and fixing the future. Simchat Torah is about restarting our learning and learning new things. Learning Torah is so important to the Jewish people that we have a whole day to celebrate it.

The Sages teach that Hashem cries for a person "who is able to engage in Torah study and does not engage in it" (Chagigah 5b:15). This makes me think that sometimes when I'm bored in bed I could get a chumash out and start learning!

Torah shouldn't just be learned by rabbis. If everyone learns Torah and learns to love Torah, everyone will be happier.

How can Torah be fun? Sometimes in school Torah is fun, like when our teacher tells us funny stories that people don't believe are true even though they are. In second grade, our teacher taught us that Hashem told Avraham to just go without telling him where, and she blindfolded us with a sweater so we'd get to experience how Avraham felt. I still remember how fun it was!

This season is called Z'man Simchateinu – our time of joy. We sit all together in the sukkah and then we dance and learn all together. Rabbi Lord Jonathan Sacks says that "Joy in the Torah is never about individuals. It is always about something we share."

I hope that you are able to celebrate Sukkot and Simchat Torah with your families and friends, and that you are able to feel that happiness. Chag Sameach!

EMAIL [RUTHIE@CKJ.ORG](mailto:RUTHIE@CKJ.ORG) FOR A CHANCE TO BE FEATURED IN THE NEXT KJYD ZINE. GET INVOLVED BY:

- Answering next month's question: What Jewish food would you add to your Thanksgiving table?
- Scheduling a one on one Dvar Torah writing session with Ruthie. Torah comes with candy!
- Sharing an idea for the next Simon Clay comic



## DRIVE FOR DIGNITY

לתת

On Tsom Gedaliah, Monday, September 18, the KJ Youth Department ran an exceptional "drive for dignity" for Masbia Soup Kitchens, with Ramaz students in grades 6 & 7 canvassing locally for goods and donations to help New Yorkers who need it most.

We were joined by Alexander Rapaport, the founder of Masbia, Assembly member Alex Bores, and City Council member Julie Menin. We also presented Masbia with a check for a portable generator to power one of their pop-up centers for the homeless.



To further support and donate to this exceptional cause please scan the QR code.

Sukkot graphic on page 3, all KJYD flyers, Ushpizin characters, & Simon Clay comics created by Ruthie Hollander for KJYD



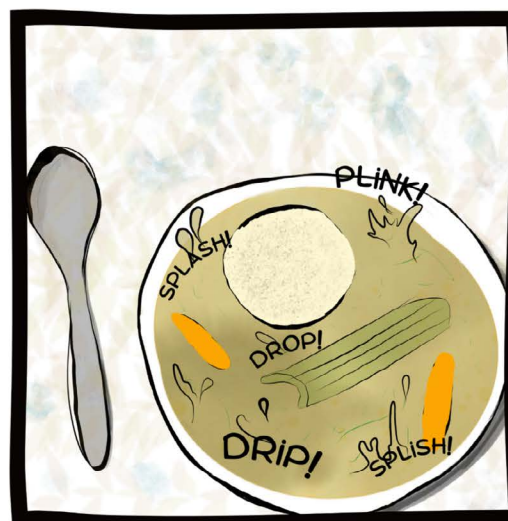
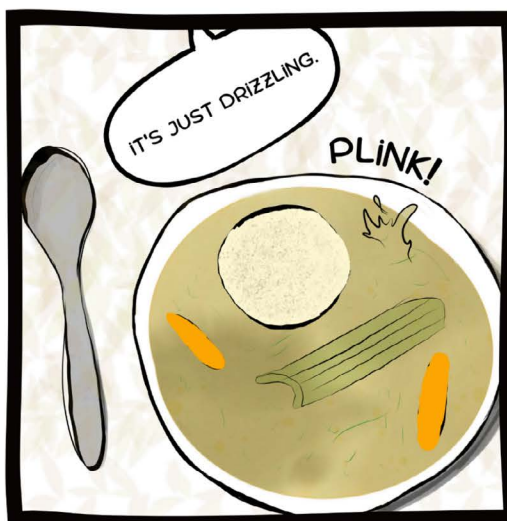
### Question:

Do you have to eat in the Sukkah on Sukkot if it's raining?

### Answer:

You are allowed to move inside from the Sukkah on Sukkot – but only if it's raining enough to "ruin your soup". If it's raining hard on the first two nights, the rabbis recommend that you wait an hour to see if it stops raining.

(Mishnah Sukkah 2:9)





# USHPIZIN

## We asked the KJ Team:

Which fictional character would you add to the Ushpizin – the guests you invite to join you in your Sukkah – this year, and why?



a. Captain America

Captain America because I like his shield and I like America.

Freddie Rodriguez



b. Superman

I was always inspired by the feats of which he was capable and that he was defending the right way to live.

Rabbi Lookstein



c. Golem

It would be cool to probe the distinction between actual human consciousness and the likeness of human consciousness.

Leonard Silverman



d. Mickey Mouse

He's funny and has a squeaky voice that makes me laugh, which is what Sukkot is all about, our z'man simchateinu!

Cantor Berson



e. Mary Poppins

She really cares about kindness and teaching others to be kind.

Esther Feierman



f. Yoda

Yoda, because we would have interesting conversations about life, purpose, and the universe.

Rabbi Laniado



g. Homer Simpson

I know he really would love the food, but worry that he might trip over some of the schach.

Rabbi Steinmetz



h. Mrs. Doubtfire

She's warm, sweet, and fuzzy, but still tells it like it is. She would keep us all entertained in the Sukkah and make a mean cup of tea.

Yael Haller



i. Penny & Brain

Inspector Gadget's niece and her dog: the ones truly responsible for thwarting M.A.D. Just like in the Pesach story, yad Hashem (God's hand) is hidden.

Rabbi Kraus



j. Minerva McGonagall

She would have wise divrei Torah, and might shapeshift into a tabby cat if rain starts to pour.

Talia Laniado



k. Willy Wonka

He'll come in with a great entrance, and bring the best food!

Rabbi Feldman



l. Gandalf

He's a good guy, but he's complicated. He's managed some difficult situations, but maintained his humanity. Dumbledore, too, for the same reason.

Jonathan Cannon



COME DECORATE!

JOIN US AS WE  
MAKE THE KJ SUKKAH  
**BEAUTIFUL!**

PIZZA • MUSIC • FUN & FRIENDS  
SEPTEMBER 29 • 11-12:30

kjyd




**COMMUNITY SUKKAH HOP**

October 1, 2023

Moise Safra Center • 130 E 82nd St	2:30-2:55
Chabad Israel Center • 1766 2nd Ave	3:10-3:35
Orach Chaim • 1459 Lexington Ave	3:45-4:05
Light Kids Dinner at KJ • 125 E 85th St	4:15-5:00



**MOVE IT GROOVE IT**  
**ROLLER SKATE-Y BACK-TO-1980**  
**SIMCHAT BEIT HASHOEVA**  
WITH **kjyd**



**MONDAY, OCTOBER 2**  
IN RAMAZ MIDDLE SCHOOL GYM

GRADES 1-2 ■ 10-11  
GRADES 3-4 ■ 11-12  
GRADES 5-6 ■ 12-1

SOME TOTALLY TUBULAR DETAILS

**NIGHT**  
OCTOBER 7 AT 6 PM

CARNIVAL  
DANCING  
CANDY  
& MORE!

**DAY**  
OCTOBER 8 AT 10 AM

TEFILLAH  
LEARNING  
CANDY  
& MORE!

**SIMCHAT TORAH**



5th Graders\* are invited  
to join KJYD on a trip to

**COLOR FACTORY**

October 26 • 4-7:30 PM  
Pizza dinner served

 **\*FIRST 20 TO REGISTER!**

Join your friends at KJYD for a 1st & 2nd grade Shabbaton  
October 28 from the conclusion of groups to 1 PM

**SHABBATON**

**1&2**

Special Lunch • Exciting Activities • Fun with Friends

Weekly Shabbat Schedule Cocoa Club @ 9-10 & Groups @ 10 - 11:30 AM

KJYD PROGRAMMING



לבוא | לשאול | לצחוק | לתת | ללמוד | GIVE: CHESED CORNER | LEARN: TORAH TALK | ASK: QUIRKY QUESTIONS | LAUGH: CLAY COMICS | JOIN: EPIC EVENTS