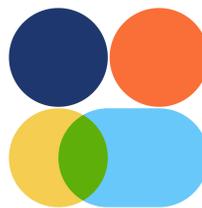


# LESSON PLAN



Theme Shavuot

Grade Level(s)

3-5th Grade

Time of lesson 45 Minutes

### Key Ideas

- Shavuot is the Jewish holiday that celebrates the giving of the Torah to the Jewish people at Mount Sinai,
- Shavuot is an agricultural festival.
- Shavuot is a holiday that emphasizes gratitude, learning and the connection between Jewish tradition and nature.
- Foods associated with Shavuot include dairy products, symbolizing the sweetness of the Torah.

### Learning Outcomes

Students will:

- Understand the historical and religious significance of Shavuot.
- Explain the connection between Shavuot and the giving of the Torah.
- Recognize foods and practices associated with Shavuot.
- Demonstrate an understanding of Shavuot through a creative activity.

### Materials & Resources

- Whiteboard & markers
- Age appropriate story/video about the giving of the Torah at Mount Sinai
- Paper, crayons or markers
- Book or visual resource about Shavuot customs.
- Shavuot word search (included)
- Paper version of the 10 Commandments (included)
- Samples of dairy food (optional)
- Picture of Mt. Sinai or a map of Israel

### Warm-up and Overview

#### Brainstorm:

- Ask students to share what Shavuot is, how it is celebrated or any information about the holiday that they can share with the class. Write their responses on the board.

**Introduce the Holiday:** Explain that Shavuot is an important Jewish holiday and share a brief overview.

- It's a celebration of the Torah
- It's an agricultural holiday in Israel
- People eat dairy foods to celebrate the sweetness of the Torah.

### Introduction

#### Story or Video

- Share a story or video about the giving of the Torah at Mount Sinai. (suggestion: The Littlest Mountain by: Kar Ben Publishing)
- Explain that Shavuot marks the moment when the Jewish People received the Ten Commandments and Torah from God. Talk about the idea of receiving wisdom and the Torah people a guide in peoples lives.

### Specific Accomodations

- Have visual aids available such as maps, pictures and drawings to highlight important places/concepts.
- Have copies of the book available for students to have in front of them and be able to follow along.

## Activity

### Individual 10 Commandments Project

**Instructions:** Each student will create their own “10 Commandments” and relate each commandment to their everyday life.

- Explain to the class what the 10 Commandments are: a set of rules/guidelines given to the Jewish people in the Torah that teach us how we should behave towards God and one another.
- Read aloud all 10 Commandments (use visuals)
- Ask students for examples on how these commandments are relative to them today. How can you honor your parents? What does it mean not to steal?
- Have students think of a situation or example from their own life where each commandment applies. Have them work in pairs or small groups to discuss these ideas.
- After the small group discussion, students will choose one or two commandments that stand out to them. They will use the 10 Commandment outline to draw/write/create symbols that represent how they can follow those commandments in their own life.

## Options for Extensions

- Ask students to go home and follow one of these commandments for homework and share about it in the next class.
- Introduce “Commandment of the Week” where you choose one to practice with intention that week.
- Shavuot word search for those who finish early.

## Options for Remediation

- Simplify the language you are using for the 10 Commandments.
- Provide examples that are more relatable to a particular student's everyday experiences.
- Share simple stories about following/breaking these commandments to make the concepts more tangible.

## Review and Closing

- Once they complete their 10 Commandments, invite students to share one or two that they illustrated with the class and explain how they related them to their life.
- Have a class discussion about how we can help each other follow the 10 Commandments in our daily actions and words.
- Have a sweet dairy snack to share with the class symbolizing the sweetness of the Torah.

## Specific Accommodations

- Provide visual aids (a poster displaying the 10 Commandments, map/photo of Mt. Sinai etc.)
- Simplify the language for each commandment.

## Checking for Understanding

- Throughout the lesson, ask students to give a thumbs up if they understand, a thumbs sideways if they are unsure, or a thumbs down if they are not understanding.
- Circulate to groups during project time to check in with students, especially those who may be struggling to complete the work.

## SHAVUOT WORD SEARCH

O H C V X Y R E U X W S K C H K U L J W  
H J J N W U P V M L C H Q V K N O O A E  
T D Q H Q J L G W K U V T N E Q B C Z E  
H A I C Y X S E N J N Z T O J U R W K K  
A I F Q Q X N I Y T F G X W N P B R Y S  
R R V O Q J Q E V S M R Z N Q H M I O G  
V Y E R A F D C P A L Q U A Z B R R V D  
E V Z G M Y M Q G S N T L I M V S K K P  
S H A V U O T O P A N H Z G T R N Q Z S  
T T G D M C C W N G Q C J J E S X K B H  
U O E W O C X R E M T H S A R F L G T O  
O X N L S D H T A Z G D N M U Q Y E T C  
H F N C E K B E C O M M A N D M E N T S  
C O V T S H M R E S O D T K H E E N Y V  
N E F Z D G G O X S F D W R X E V Z Y D  
S S S J Z K H W C N E K H B E T J B Q E  
V C W I B O G Z L A H C C Y E P S Z A P  
T F H M N V I H P S D N A I D E C X V F  
S U L V P A O G Y V G U B K C O I Q J N  
S X U H N U I V Z M J Z Y U E L C G B P

### WORD BANK

Fruits  
Weeks  
Moses

Cheesecake  
Harvest  
Sivan  
Commandments

Shavuot  
Dairy  
Sinai

