

## Tu Bishvat Fruit Salad Game

An Activity from [Hebrew at the Center](#)

Tu B'Shvat is a Jewish holiday that celebrates the "New Year of the Trees":

### **When it's celebrated**

On the 15th day of the Hebrew month of Shevat, which usually falls in January or early February

### **What it's about**

A holiday with roots in early Jewish farming and the Torah's concern with the natural world

### **How it's celebrated**

With tree-planting festivals, eating fruits and nuts, crafts, and quiet activities

### **What it symbolizes**

In contemporary Israel, it's celebrated as an ecological awareness day

### **How it's observed**

Ashkenazic Jews eat 15 different fruits and recite psalms, while Sephardic Jews celebrate with a "feast of fruits" and songs called coplas

### **What's eaten**

A variety of fruits, including the seven species that praise the Land of Israel, plus nuts, wine, and grape juice

### **What's included in the Tu B'Shvat seder**

A ritual similar to a Passover seder, where eating fruits in a specific order is said to create a connection with the Tree of Life

## How to play “Fruit Salad! פירות סלט”

You may be familiar with the game “where the wind blows” – this game is similar!

To play, start by forming a circle of chairs, one fewer than there are people. Loosely speaking, the game proceeds like this:

1. The person without a chair stands in the center.
2. In the simplest form of the game, each person is assigned a fruit name: apple, orange, pear, banana, etc.
3. The player in the middle calls out the name of one of the chosen fruits, and each person assigned to that fruit jumps up and rushes around like a headless chicken trying to find an empty seat to sit in. Meanwhile, the player in the middle does the same, hoping to leave someone else standing without a chair to sit in.
4. There is much pushing, shoving and general hilarity, and at least one person will end up falling in a heap on the floor, giggling fit to burst, as they are shoved aside from their chosen seat by someone who was just a split second faster in reaching it. Or even someone who was a split second slower, but pushes harder. (*Hey, I didn't say it was fair...*)
5. To add another element to the game, at any time, the caller can shout פירות סלט, at which point everyone, regardless of which fruit they are, has to leap to their feet and find a new place to sit.

## Hebrew Fruit Name Matching Game

An Activity from [Hebrew at the Center](#)

Match the below Hebrew words with these [grocery store pictures](#). Try to practice writing the Hebrew names of the fruits in the box with the pictures.

\*Make it harder option 1: white out the English names of the fruits so students have to guess which is which.

\*\*Make it harder option 2: for fruit names that are not listed in Hebrew on the list below, have students try to spell out the English words in transliterated Hebrew letters.

## Fruit Salad! סלט פירות

apple	תפוח
avocado	אבוקדו
banana	בננה
blueberry	אכמנית
cherry	דבדבן
date	תמר
fig	תאנה
grapes	ענבים
kiwi	קיווי
lemon	לימון
lychee	ליצ'י
mango	מנגו
olive	זית
orange	תפוז
papaya	פאפאיה
peach	אפרסק
pear	אגס
pineapple	אננס
pomegranate	רמון
plum	שזיף
raspberry	פטל
strawberry	תות
watermelon	אבטיח