# LESSON PLAN



Theme Shavuot

Grade Level(s)

Kindergarten- Second Grade

Time of lesson 45 Minutes

#### Key Ideas

- Receiving the Torah at Mount Sinai
- The story of Ruth and the value of loyalty and kindness.
- The tradition of eating dairy food on Shavuot.

# Learning Outcomes

Students will:

- Identify two historical figures connected to Shavuot (Moses & Ruth)
- Identify the values of loyalty & kindness and how they display those traits in their lives.
- Design and create kindness jars where they can collect examples of loyalty & kindness in their lives.

#### Materials & Resources

- Empty Mason Jars
- Lace, burlap, yarn, tissue paper (other materials that can be cut up)
- Modge Podge
- Scissors
- Post it notes (small)
- Markers

# Warm-up and Overview

- As students come in ask them to tell their neighbor sitting next to them about the most special gift/treat/surprise they have ever received.
- Ask students to think think about what they know about Shavuot.
- Share the text study activity handout included in this lesson.

# Introduction

- Introduce the holiday of Shavuot to the students and see what background knowledge they have about it.
- Use this <u>video</u> to give them an overview of why we celebrate Shavuot.
- Share the story of Naomi & Ruth with the class. You can use a summary of the story, book of your choosing or one of the videos linked below:
  - The Book of Ruth: A Music Video for Shavuot
  - Book of Ruth for Kids: Shavuot for Children

#### Specific Accomodations

- Pause the video throughout to check for understanding and explain unknown vocabulary (tikkun etc.)
- Allow students to draw/doodle what they picture the scene to look like when the Jewish people received the Torah.



#### Activity

# **Brainstorming Activity:**

- Start by asking the students to brainstorm examples of times when they've shown loyalty and kindness.
- Create a chart on the board with three sections labeled HOME, SCHOOL, and COMMUNITY.
- Have the students suggest examples for each category and discuss where these acts overlap.

#### Introducing the Kindness Jar:

- Introduce the Class Kindness Jar to the students. Explain that this jar will be a place where they can add notes about acts of kindness or loyalty they witness among their classmates.
- Each student will also create their own Kindness Jar to take home.

# Making Kindness Jars:

- Hand out materials for the students to create their own personal kindness jars.
- Allow them time to decorate and personalize their jars.

<ul> <li>Options for Extensions</li> <li>Have students who finish early come up with lists of acts of loyalty and kindness they could do around school.</li> <li>Have them create a kindness jar for the school office.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Options for Remediation</li> <li>Allow for extra time for students who work at a slower pace.</li> <li>Have materials cut up and ready to use for those with fine motor difficulties.</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>Review and Closing</li> <li>Once the jars are complete, have students present their jars to the class.</li> <li>When they present have each student share one act of loyalty or kindness they've witnessed in the class and write it on a post-it note.</li> <li>Students should then place their post-it note into the classmate's kindness jar that they wrote about.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Specific Accomodations</li> <li>Allow students the option to sit or stand during the brainstorming activity</li> <li>Give students the option to write down their act of kindness/loyalty if they don't want to share in front of the group.</li> </ul>

# Checking for Understanding

- Check for understanding throughout the lesson by circulating through the room while they make their kindness jars and check in with specific questions to get a sense who understands and who may need more attention.
- Pause the video periodically to as it introduces new words that the class may not be familiar with.