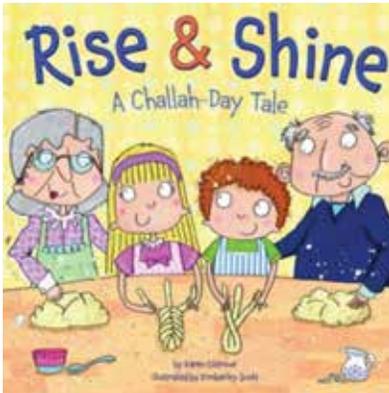


Global Day of Jewish Learning

Curriculum: Creating Together



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A Project of the Aleph Society

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RESOURCES YOU WILL NEED:

- Crayons or markers
- Attached worksheet

Introduction (7 minutes)

Welcome to the Global Day of Jewish Learning. Today, Jews from around the world are all setting aside some time to learn.

The book of Genesis outlines the way that God created the world. Today we will explore the world God created while also looking into the smaller worlds that each and every one of us creates.

At the start of the book of Genesis, God sets out to create the world. It is a thoughtful creation. He takes six days to create the world. Each day brings something new.

- Ask your students to share their knowledge of what was created.

Part One: Creation (15 minutes)

Take a few minutes to read the text below. It outlines what God created each day.

Text #1: Genesis 1:5–2:3 (selected verses)

בראשית א,ה ח יא יג טז כא כג כה כז לא ב,ג:
 וַיִּבְרָא אֱלֹהִים לְאוֹר יוֹם וַלְחֹשֶׁךְ קָרָא לַיְלָה; וַיְהִי עֶרֶב וַיְהִי בֹקֶר יוֹם אֶחָד... וַיִּבְרָא אֱלֹהִים לְרִקִיעַ שָׁמַיִם; וַיְהִי עֶרֶב וַיְהִי בֹקֶר יוֹם שֵׁנִי....
 וַיֵּאמֶר אֱלֹהִים תְּדַשָּׂא הָאָרֶץ דָּשָׂא עֵשֶׂב מִזֵּרִיעַ זֶרַע עֵץ פְּרִי עֹשֶׂה פְרִי לְמִינֵוּ אֲשֶׁר יִרְעוּ בּוֹ עַל הָאָרֶץ; וַיְהִי כֵן. וַתּוּצֵא הָאָרֶץ דָּשָׂא עֵשֶׂב מִזֵּרִיעַ זֶרַע לְמִינֵהוּ וְעֵץ עֹשֶׂה פְרִי אֲשֶׁר יִרְעוּ בּוֹ לְמִינֵהוּ; וַיִּבְרָא אֱלֹהִים כִּי טוֹב.
 וַיְהִי עֶרֶב וַיְהִי בֹקֶר יוֹם שְׁלִישִׁי...
 וַיַּעַשׂ אֱלֹהִים אֵת שְׁנֵי הַמְּאֹרֹת הַגְּדֹלִים: אֵת הַמְּאֹרֹת הַגְּדֹלִים לְמַמְשֶׁלֶת הַיּוֹם וְאֵת הַמְּאֹרֹת הַקְּטָנִים לְמַמְשֶׁלֶת הַלַּיְלָה וְאֵת הַכּוֹכָבִים.
 וַיִּתֵּן אֹתָם אֱלֹהִים בְּרִקִיעַ הַשָּׁמַיִם לְהָאִיר עַל הָאָרֶץ.
 וַלְמַשָּׁל בַּיּוֹם וּבַלַּיְלָה וּלְהַבְדִּיל בֵּין הָאוֹר וּבֵין הַחֹשֶׁךְ; וַיִּבְרָא אֱלֹהִים כִּי טוֹב.
 וַיְהִי עֶרֶב וַיְהִי בֹקֶר יוֹם רְבִיעִי.
 וַיֵּאמֶר אֱלֹהִים יִשְׂרָצוּ הַמַּיִם שָׂרָץ נֶפֶשׁ חַיָּה; וְעוֹף יַעֲוֹף עַל הָאָרֶץ עַל פְּנֵי רִקִיעַ הַשָּׁמַיִם.
 וַיִּבְרָא אֱלֹהִים אֵת הַתַּנִּינִם הַגְּדֹלִים; וְאֵת כָּל נֶפֶשׁ הַחַיָּה הַרְמֹשֶׁת אֲשֶׁר שָׂרָצוּ הַמַּיִם לְמִינֵהֶם וְאֵת כָּל עוֹף כָּנָף לְמִינֵהוּ וַיִּבְרָא אֱלֹהִים כִּי טוֹב...
 וַיְהִי עֶרֶב וַיְהִי בֹקֶר יוֹם חַמִּישִׁי.
 וַיֵּאמֶר אֱלֹהִים תּוּצֵא הָאָרֶץ נֶפֶשׁ חַיָּה לְמִינָהּ בְּהֵמָה וְרֶמֶשׂ וְחַיֹּת אָרֶץ לְמִינָהּ; וַיְהִי כֵן.
 וַיַּעַשׂ אֱלֹהִים אֵת חַיַּת הָאָרֶץ לְמִינָהּ וְאֵת הַבְּהֵמָה לְמִינָהּ וְאֵת כָּל רֶמֶשׂ הָאֲדָמָה לְמִינָהּ; וַיִּבְרָא אֱלֹהִים כִּי טוֹב...
 וַיִּבְרָא אֱלֹהִים אֵת הָאָדָם בְּצַלְמוֹ בְּצֶלֶם אֱלֹהִים בָּרָא אֹתוֹ: זָכָר וּנְקֵבָה בָּרָא אֹתָם...
 וַיִּבְרָא אֱלֹהִים אֵת כָּל אֲשֶׁר עָשָׂה וַהֲגִיחַ טוֹב מְאֹד; וַיְהִי עֶרֶב וַיְהִי בֹקֶר יוֹם הַשִּׁשִּׁי...
 וַיְבָרַךְ אֱלֹהִים אֵת יוֹם הַשְּׁבִיעִי וַיְקַדְּשׁ אֹתוֹ כִּי בּוֹ שָׁבַת מְקַל מְלַאכְתּוֹ אֲשֶׁר בָּרָא אֱלֹהִים לַעֲשׂוֹת:

5. And God called the light Day, and the darkness He called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, one day...

8. And God called the firmament Heaven. And there was evening and there was morning, a second day...

11–13. And God said: 'Let the earth put forth grass, herb yielding seed, and fruit-tree bearing fruit after its kind, wherein is the seed thereof, upon the earth.' And it was so. And the earth brought forth grass, herb yielding seed after its kind, and tree bearing fruit, wherein is the seed thereof, after its kind; and God saw that it was good. And there was evening and there was morning, a third day...

16–21. And God made the two great lights: the greater light to rule the day, and the lesser light to rule the night; and the stars. And God set them in the firmament of the heaven to give light upon the earth, and to rule over the day and over the night, and to divide the light from the darkness; and God saw that it was good.

And there was evening and there was morning, a fourth day.

And God said: 'Let the waters swarm with swarms of living creatures, and let fowl fly above the earth in the open firmament of heaven.' And God created the great sea-monsters, and every living creature that creeps, wherewith the waters swarmed, after its kind, and every winged fowl after its kind; and God saw that it was good...23-25. And there was evening and there was morning, a fifth day.

And God said: 'Let the earth bring forth the living creature after its kind, cattle, and creeping thing, and beast of the earth after its kind.' And it was so.

And God made the beast of the earth after its kind, and the cattle after their kind, and everything that creeps upon the ground after its kind; and God saw that it was good. 27. And God created man in His own image, in the image of God created He him; male and female created He them... 31. And God saw every thing that He had made, and, behold, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day...2:3 And God blessed the seventh day, and hallowed it; because that in it He rested from all His work which God in creating had made.

Activity #1: Seven Days of Creation Worksheet

► **Distribute the worksheet and crayons/markers. Ask your students to fill in their worksheets to show what was created each day. If they have some time, they can color in their worksheet.**

It is interesting to learn that it is only on the sixth day that God creates people.

Text #2: Genesis 1:26-27

בראשית א, כו כז:
וַיֹּאמֶר אֱלֹהִים נַעֲשֵׂה אָדָם בְּצַלְמֵנוּ כְּדְמוּתֵנוּ; וַיְרַדּוּ בְדִגְתַּת הַיָּם וּבְעוֹף הַשָּׁמַיִם וּבַבְּהֵמָה וּבְכָל הָאָרֶץ וּבְכָל הַרְמֵשׁ
הָרֶמֶשׂ עַל הָאָרֶץ.
וַיִּבְרָא אֱלֹהִים אֶת הָאָדָם בְּצַלְמוֹ בְּצַלְם אֱלֹהִים בָּרָא אֹתוֹ: זָכָר וּנְקֵבָה בָּרָא אֹתָם.

And God said, "Let us make man in our image, after our likeness. They shall rule the fish of the sea, the birds of the sky, the cattle, the whole earth, and all the creeping things that creep on earth." And God created man in His image, in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them.

► **Ask:**

1. Why do you think God waited to create people until after the rest of the world was created?
2. What jobs are the first people given?

Activity #2: Anything to add?

It took God six days to create the universe. He filled it with light and darkness, water and dry land, plants and trees, animals and humans. Anything missing? Perhaps a unicorn or two? Turn to the person sitting next to you and come up with a new creation for the earth. It could be a new animal, a new type of tree—anything that you think would be a great addition to our planet! Share your idea with the class.

Part Two: Taking Care of Our World (15 minutes)

Imagine your favorite toy. How do you take care of it? Perhaps you play with it very carefully. Maybe you make sure to keep it clean and safe. Things that are very important to us are treated specially. God feels the same way about the world He created. Read the text below and learn about how God wants humankind to take care of the world.

Text #3: Ecclesiastes Rabbah 7:13

קהלת רבה (וילנא) פרשה ז, יג
בשעה שברא הקדוש ברוך הוא את אדם הראשון נטלו והחזירו על כל אילני גן עדן ואמר לו ראה מעשי כמה נאים ומשובחין הן וכל מה שבראתי בשבילך בראתי, תן דעתך שלא תקלקל ותחריב את עולמי, שאם קלקלת אין מי שיתקן אחריך.

When God created Adam, God led him around all the trees in the Garden of Eden. God said to him, “See how beautiful and praiseworthy all of My works are? Everything I have created has been created for your sake. Think of this, and do not corrupt or destroy my world; for if you corrupt it, there will be no one to set it right after you.”

➤ Ask:

1. Why does God take Adam on a tour of the Garden of Eden?
2. What message does God give Adam?

After God has worked creating the world, He then tells Adam that everything that was created was created for the sake of humankind. God warns Adam to take good care of the earth.

➤ Ask:

1. God’s creation seems to be important and meaningful to Him. Can you relate? What do you create? What is meaningful to you?

Activity #3: What makes up your world?

While God created the universe, each of us lives in our own very special and unique world. We are surrounded by friends and family and community. Come up with a list of what makes your world so special. You can include the people you love, places you love to visit and things you love to do. All of those pieces come together to create Your World. Share your world with your class.

A Story taken from Babylonian Talmud Ta'anit 23a

The Talmud tells a wonderful story of a wise man named Honi. One day, Honi was out taking a walk when he saw an old man planting a carob tree. Honi was intrigued and walked over to the old man. Honi asked him, "How many years will it take for this tree to produce fruit?" The man answered him, "It will take seventy years." Honi was surprised, "You are already an old man! Are you so healthy that you think you will live seventy more years and be able to eat the fruit from this tree? The man answered, "I found a world full of fruit when I was born because my ancestors planted it for me. So now I'm planting fruit for my children."

➤ Ask:

1. Why is the old man planting fruit?
2. Why do you think Honi is surprised to see the old man planting fruit?
3. What message can we learn from this story?

Conclusion (8 minutes)

God creates the whole world before adding people. It is as though God is giving the earth to Adam as a special gift that needs to be treasured and looked after. It seems that the things that we value the most need to be taken care of carefully and lovingly. We're warned that it is our job to look after the earth and take care of it.

➤ Ask:

1. What are some ways that we can help leave the world a better place?

Text #1: Genesis 1:5–2:3 (selected verses)**Genesis 1:5**

And God called the light Day, and the darkness He called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, one day.

בראשית א,ה:

וַיִּקְרָא אֱלֹהִים לְאוֹר יוֹם וּלְחֹשֶׁךְ קִרְא לַיְלָה; וַיְהִי עֶרֶב
וַיְהִי בֹקֶר יוֹם אֶחָד.

Genesis 1:8

And God called the firmament Heaven. And there was evening and there was morning, a second day.

בראשית א,ח:

וַיִּקְרָא אֱלֹהִים לְרָקִיעַ שָׁמַיִם; וַיְהִי עֶרֶב וַיְהִי בֹקֶר יוֹם
שֵׁנִי.

Genesis 1:11–13

And God said: 'Let the earth put forth grass, herb yielding seed, and fruit-tree bearing fruit after its kind, wherein is the seed thereof, upon the earth.' And it was so.

And the earth brought forth grass, herb yielding seed after its kind, and tree bearing fruit, wherein is the seed thereof, after its kind; and God saw that it was good.

And there was evening and there was morning, a third day.

בראשית א,יא יג:

וַיֹּאמֶר אֱלֹהִים תִּדְשָׂא הָאָרֶץ דְּשֵׂא עֵשֶׂב מְזֵרִיעַ זֶרַע עֵץ
פְּרִי עֵשֶׂה פְּרִי לְמִינֹו אֲשֶׁר זָרְעוּ בוֹ עַל הָאָרֶץ; וַיְהִי כֵן.
וַתּוֹצֵא הָאָרֶץ דְּשֵׂא עֵשֶׂב מְזֵרִיעַ זֶרַע לְמִינֵהוּ וְעֵץ עֵשֶׂה
פְּרִי אֲשֶׁר זָרְעוּ בוֹ לְמִינֵהוּ; וַיִּרְא אֱלֹהִים כִּי טוֹב.
וַיְהִי עֶרֶב וַיְהִי בֹקֶר יוֹם שְׁלִישִׁי.

Genesis 1:16–21:

And God made the two great lights: the greater light to rule the day, and the lesser light to rule the night; and the stars.

And God set them in the firmament of the heaven to give light upon the earth, and to rule over the day and over the night, and to divide the light from the darkness; and God saw that it was good.

And there was evening and there was morning, a fourth day.

And God said: 'Let the waters swarm with swarms of living creatures, and let fowl fly above the earth in the open firmament of heaven.'

And God created the great sea-monsters, and every living creature that creeps, wherewith the waters swarmed, after its kind, and every winged fowl after its kind; and God saw that it was good.

בראשית א,טז כא:

וַיַּעַשׂ אֱלֹהִים אֶת שְׁנֵי הַמְּאֹרֹת הַגְּדֹלִים: אֶת הַמְּאֹרֹת
הַגְּדֹל לְמַמְשַׁלֵּת הַיּוֹם וְאֶת הַמְּאֹרֹת הַקְּטָנִים לְמַמְשַׁלֵּת
הַלַּיְלָה וְאֶת הַכּוֹכָבִים.
וַיִּתֵּן אֹתָם אֱלֹהִים בְּרָקִיעַ הַשָּׁמַיִם לְהָאִיר עַל הָאָרֶץ.
וַלְמַשֵּׁל בַּיּוֹם וּבַלַּיְלָה וּלְהַבְדִּיל בֵּין הָאוֹר וּבֵין הַחֹשֶׁךְ;
וַיִּרְא אֱלֹהִים כִּי טוֹב.
וַיְהִי עֶרֶב וַיְהִי בֹקֶר יוֹם רְבִיעִי.
וַיֹּאמֶר אֱלֹהִים יִשְׂרְצוּ הַמַּיִם שָׂרָץ נֹפֵשׁ חַיָּה; וְעוֹף
יַעֲרֹף עַל הָאָרֶץ עַל פְּנֵי רָקִיעַ הַשָּׁמַיִם.
וַיִּבְרָא אֱלֹהִים אֶת הַתַּנִּינִם הַגְּדֹלִים; וְאֶת כָּל נֹפֵשׁ
הַחַיָּה הַרְמֹשֶׁת אֲשֶׁר שָׂרָצוּ הַמַּיִם לְמִינֵהֶם וְאֶת כָּל עוֹף
הַשָּׁמַיִם לְמִינֵהוּ וַיִּרְא אֱלֹהִים כִּי טוֹב.

Genesis 1:23–25:

And there was evening and there was morning, a fifth day.

And God said: 'Let the earth bring forth the living creature after its kind, cattle, and creeping thing, and beast of the earth after its kind.' And it was so. And God made the beast of the earth after its kind, and the cattle after their kind, and everything that creeps upon the ground after its kind; and God saw that it was good.

בראשית א, כג כה:

וַיְהִי עֶרֶב וַיְהִי בֹקֶר יוֹם חַמִּישִׁי.

וַיֹּאמֶר אֱלֹהִים תּוֹצֵא הָאָרֶץ נֶפֶשׁ חַיָּה לְמִינָהּ בְּהֵמָה

וְרֶמֶשׂ וְחַיְתוֹ אֲרָץ לְמִינָהּ; וַיְהִי כֵן.

וַיַּעַשׂ אֱלֹהִים אֵת חַיַּת הָאָרֶץ לְמִינָהּ וְאֵת הַבְּהֵמָה

לְמִינָהּ וְאֵת כָּל רֶמֶשׂ הָאֲדָמָה לְמִינָהּ; וַיִּרְא אֱלֹהִים

כִּי טוֹב.

Genesis 1:27:

And God created man in His own image, in the image of God created He him; male and female created He them.

בראשית א, כז:

וַיִּבְרָא אֱלֹהִים אֶת הָאָדָם בְּצַלְמוֹ בְּצֶלֶם אֱלֹהִים בָּרָא

אֹתוֹ: זָכָר וּנְקֵבָה בָּרָא אֹתָם

Genesis 1:31:

And God saw everything that He had made, and, behold, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.

בראשית א, לא:

וַיִּרְא אֱלֹהִים אֵת כָּל אֲשֶׁר עָשָׂה וְהִנֵּה טוֹב מְאֹד; וַיְהִי

עֶרֶב וַיְהִי בֹקֶר יוֹם הַשְּׁשִׁי.

Genesis 2:3:

And God blessed the seventh day, and hallowed it; because that in it He rested from all His work which God in creating had made.

בראשית ב, ג:

וַיְבָרֶךְ אֱלֹהִים אֵת יוֹם הַשְּׁבִיעִי וַיְקַדְּשׁ אֹתוֹ כִּי בּו שָׁבַת

מִכָּל מְלָאכְתּוֹ אֲשֶׁר בָּרָא אֱלֹהִים לַעֲשׂוֹת:

Text #2: Genesis 1:26-27**בראשית א, כו כז:**

וַיֹּאמֶר אֱלֹהִים נַעֲשֵׂה אָדָם בְּצַלְמֵנוּ כְּדִמוֹתֵנוּ; וַיְרַדְדוּ בְדִגְתַּי הַיָּם וּבְעוֹף הַשָּׁמַיִם וּבַבְּהֵמָה וּבְכָל הָאָרֶץ וּבְכָל הַרְמֵשׂ הַרְמֵשׂ עַל הָאָרֶץ.

וַיִּבְרָא אֱלֹהִים אֵת הָאָדָם בְּצַלְמוֹ בְּצֶלֶם אֱלֹהִים בָּרָא אֹתוֹ: זָכָר וּנְקֵבָה בָּרָא אֹתָם.

And God said, "Let us make man in our image, after our likeness. They shall rule the fish of the sea, the birds of the sky, the cattle, the whole earth, and all the creeping things that creep on earth." And God created man in His image, in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them.



Text #3: Ecclesiastes Rabbah 7:13

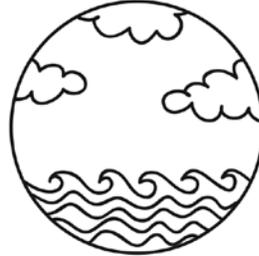
קהלת רבה (וילנא) פרשה ז, יג

בשעה שברא הקדוש ברוך הוא את אדם הראשון נטלו והחזירו על כל אילני גן עדן ואמר לו ראה מעשי כמה נאים ומשובחין הן וכל מה שבראתי בשבילך בראתי, תן דעתך שלא תקלקל ותחריב את עולמי, שאם קלקלת אין מי שיתקן אחריך.

When God created Adam, God led him around all the trees in the Garden of Eden. God said to him, “See how beautiful and praiseworthy all of My works are? Everything I have created has been created for your sake. Think of this, and do not corrupt or destroy my world; for if you corrupt it, there will be no one to set it right after you.”

→ Draw a line from the day of the week to what God created on that day. ←

DAY ONE



DAY TWO



DAY THREE



DAY FOUR



DAY FIVE



DAY SIX



Shabbat



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