



Purim in Yerushalayim



A joint project between Nefesh B'Nefesh and the English Inspectorate,
Haredi District



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Unit Objectives for “Shushan Purim in Yerushalayim” – Purim Themed Unit

Students can:

Written Reception:

- 1) Understand the main points of a short narrative text
- 2) Follow the sequence of events in a simple story
- 3) Identify main themes and characters in short narratives

Spoken Production:

- 1) Describe the feelings and emotions of characters using simple language
- 2) Express personal responses to the text using basic expressions
- 3) Students engage in role plays about aspects of the story

Spoken Interaction:

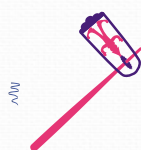
- 1) Participate in structured discussions about themes of the story

Written Production:

- 1) Write simple diary entries from different perspectives
- 2) Compose short, simple personal responses to the text

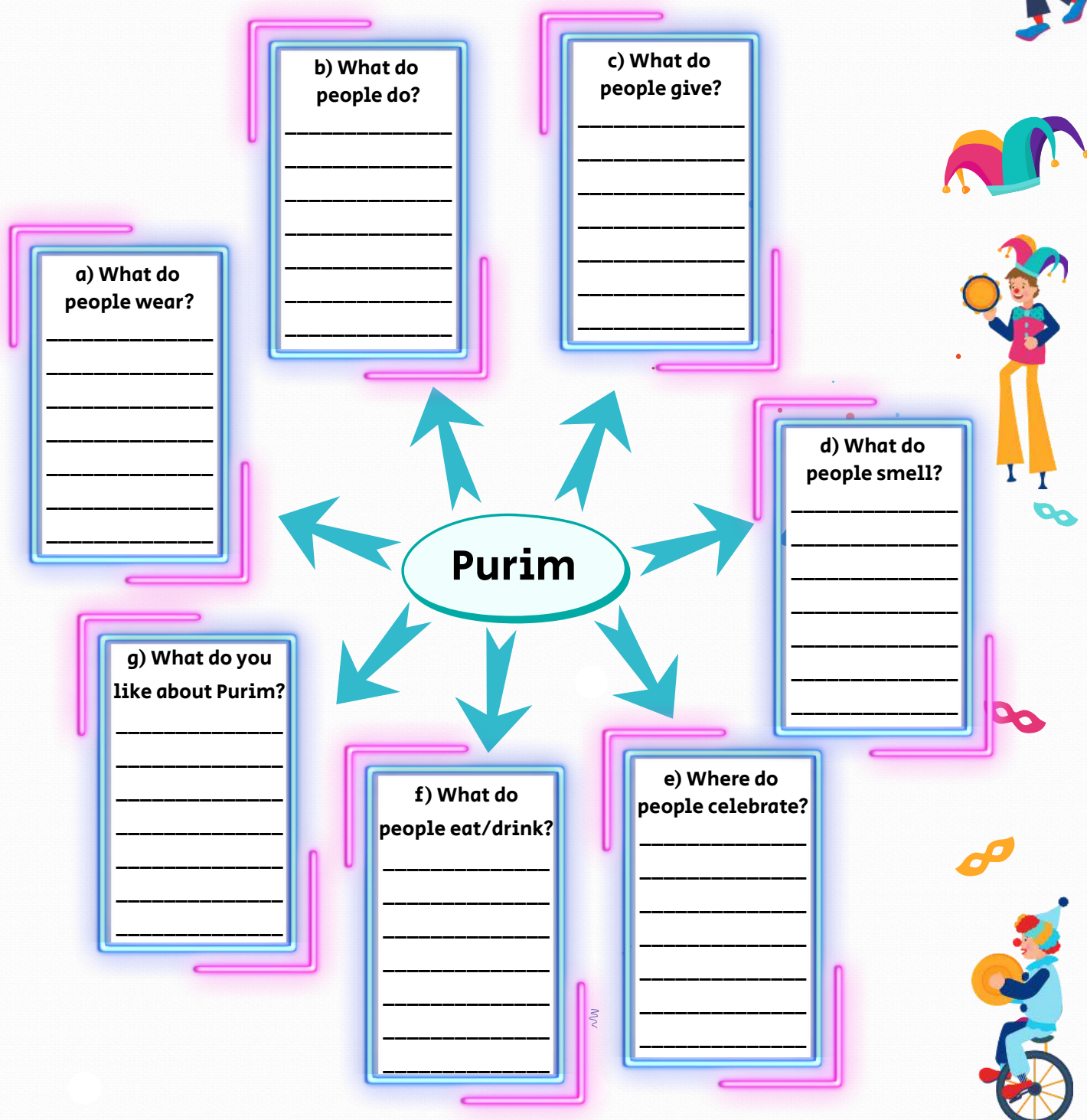
Vocabulary and Language:

- 1) Use new vocabulary related to family, emotions, and historical contexts
- 2) Apply basic connectors (and, but, because) to link ideas
- 3) Use level-appropriate language to express themselves



Purim Celebration Brainstorm

1. In small groups, create a mind map about Purim.



2. Groups take turns sharing one idea from their map.

Class Discussion Questions:

- a) How do you celebrate Purim?
- b) What is your favorite Purim activity?

New Words:

1) celebrate- לחגוג	2) lay out- להניח	3) costume- תחפושת
4) crown- כתר	5) hero- גיבור	6) basket- סל
7) smell- ריח / להריח	8) activity- פעילות	9) neighborhood- שכונה
10) parade- תהלוכה	11) set- לכוון / כיוון	12) alarm- שעון מעורר
13) connected- קשור / מחובר	14) can't wait- לא יכול לחכות	





Vocabulary Practice Activities:

Activity 1: Purim Vocabulary Picture Match

In pairs, match vocabulary word cards to picture cards.

Cut out the cards and pictures below.



costume



connected



smell



crown



baskets



alarm



neighborhood



parade



**Jerusalem
walls**



Activity 2: Word clues

Match words from the word bank below to the clues.

smell * parade * basket * crown * neighborhood * hero * activities *
celebrate * set * connected * laid out * alarm * can't wait * costume

- * Something you wear on Purim -
- * What a king wears on his head -
- * What you do to clothes before wearing them -
- * What you can do with your nose -
- * Things to do for fun -
- * Where many families live -
- * People walking together in costumes -
- * What you do with your alarm clock -
- * What wakes you up in the morning -
- * A brave person -
- * How you feel about a special day -
- * What you put gifts in -
- * What you do on holidays -
- * Joined or together; how people feel in a family -
.....



Activity 3: Complete the Story

Fill in the blanks with words from the box:

smell * parade * baskets * crown * neighborhood * hero * activities *
celebrated * set * connected * laid out * alarm * can't wait * costume

Today is Purim! I (1)_____ my beautiful (2)_____ on my bed last night. It has a gold (3)_____ because I want to be the king from the Purim story. My mother wanted me to be Mordechai, the (4)_____. She made cookies to put in (5)_____ for our friends. The (6)_____ of baking filled our house.

We have many (7)_____ planned for today. All the people in the (8)_____ are having a big (9)_____. I (10)_____ my (11)_____ for early morning because I (12)_____ to join the fun! I feel (12)_____ to all the people who have (14)_____ this holiday for many years.

Activity 4: Word Categories

Put vocabulary words under the correct category:

Things you wear	Things you do	Places	Feelings/Emotions

Shushan Purim in Yerushalayim

Daniel looked out his window at the old walls of Yerushalayim.

Tomorrow will be Shushan Purim, a special holiday celebrated in Yerushalayim one day after other cities celebrate Purim. Daniel was very excited. He laid out his costume on his bed – a long blue robe, ⁽¹⁾ a fake ⁽²⁾ beard, and a special crown that his father helped him make. He was going to dress as Mordechai, the hero from the Purim story. His mother called him to the kitchen to help make the mishloach manot. They filled small baskets with hamantaschen, candies, and grape juice. The sweet smell of cookies filled their home.

In the afternoon, Daniel and his father walked through the narrow streets of Yerushalayim's Old City. They saw people starting to celebrate, with music playing and children wearing costumes. "Yerushalayim celebrates Purim one day later because it has walls, like the city of Shushan in the Purim story," his father explained. Daniel felt special living in a city with so much history. They visited his grandmother to give her a gift basket. She smiled and told Daniel he would be "the best Mordechai in all of Yerushalayim!" Daniel felt proud and happy as they walked home.

When evening came, Daniel could see lights on the city walls from his window. He thought about tomorrow's activities – listening to the Megillah at shul, joining the neighborhood parade, and eating a seudah with his family. He put his costume next to his bed and set his alarm for early morning. That night, Daniel dreamed about walking through Yerushalayim as Mordechai, celebrating Shushan Purim in his special city. He felt connected to thousands of years of Jewish history and couldn't wait for morning to come.

List of Gloss Words:

- 1) robe - חלוק
- 2) fake - מזוייף

Reading Comprehension Activities

Activity A: Understanding the Story

Timeline Activity: Number the events from 1-6 in the correct order:

- _____ Daniel lays out his costume on his bed.
- _____ Daniel helps make baskets with food.
- _____ Daniel walks with his father in Jerusalem.
- _____ Daniel visits his grandmother.
- _____ Daniel sees lights on the city walls.
- _____ Daniel sets his alarm for morning.



Activity B: True or False Questions

Mark each statement T (True) or F (False):

1. _____ Daniel dressed as King Ahasuerus for Purim.
2. _____ Daniel's father helped him make a special crown for his costume.
3. _____ Daniel and his mother filled baskets with hamantaschen and candies.
4. _____ Daniel's grandmother gave him a gift basket.
5. _____ Daniel set his alarm clock for late afternoon.
6. _____ Jerusalem celebrates Purim one day later because it has walls like Shushan.





Activity C: Basic Understanding Questions

Answer the Following Questions about the Story:

1. Where does Daniel live?

2. What is Daniel's costume for Purim?

3. What did Daniel and his mother put in the baskets?

4. Who did Daniel and his father visit?

5. What did Daniel's grandmother say to him?

6. Why does Jerusalem celebrate Purim one day later?

7. What three activities will Daniel do on Purim day?

8. How did Daniel feel before going to sleep?



Activity D: Creative Writing Activity: My Purim Journal

Imagine you are celebrating Purim in your neighborhood.
Write a journal entry about your day using at least 6 vocabulary words from the list.

Instructions:

1. Look at the vocabulary words in the box.
2. Think about your own Purim celebration.
3. Plan what you will write using the sentence starters.

Vocabulary Box:

smell * parade * basket * crown * neighborhood * hero * activities *
celebrate * set * connected * laid out * alarm * can't wait * costume

Sentence Starters:

Yesterday, I _____
In the morning, I _____
My costume was _____
I could smell _____
In our neighborhood, _____
I feel _____



**Write 5–7 sentences about your Purim celebration.
Use at least 6 vocabulary words from the box.**

Dear Journal,

Activity E: Speaking Activity: Role-Playing Dialogue

Work with a partner to create and perform a short dialogue about Purim celebrations.

Instructions:

1. Choose your roles. (Daniel, Daniel's father, Daniel's mother, or Daniel's grandmother)
2. Create a short dialogue using the phrases of your character.
3. Practice your dialogue.
4. Perform for the class.

Role Cards:

Daniel:

- Excited about Purim
- Wearing a Mordechai costume
- Wants to go to the parade

Daniel's Mother:

- Making food for baskets
- Helping with costume
- Telling Daniel about Purim

Daniel's Father:

- Walking in Jerusalem
- Explaining about Shushan Purim
- Helping with the crown

Daniel's Grandmother:

- Happy to see Daniel
- Receives a gift basket
- Tells stories about Purim



Activity F: Creative Group Task: Plan a Purim Celebration

Instructions:

In groups of 3-4, plan a Purim celebration for your class.

1. Choose a group leader.
2. Use the questions below to organize your ideas.
3. Each student must use at least 3 vocabulary words.
4. Present your plan to the class.

Our Purim Celebration:

a) Costumes: What will people wear?

b) Activities: What will people do?

c) Food: What will be in the baskets?

d) Parade: Where will it go in the neighborhood?

e) Schedule: What time will activities start? (Set the alarm!)

f) Decorations: How will you make the room special?

Vocabulary Words to Use:

smell * parade * basket * crown * neighborhood * hero * activities *
celebrate * set * connected * laid out * alarm * can't wait * costume

Presentation:

Share your plan with the class!

Tell us:

- * One special costume idea
- * One fun activity
- * What food you will have
- * How people will feel at your celebration



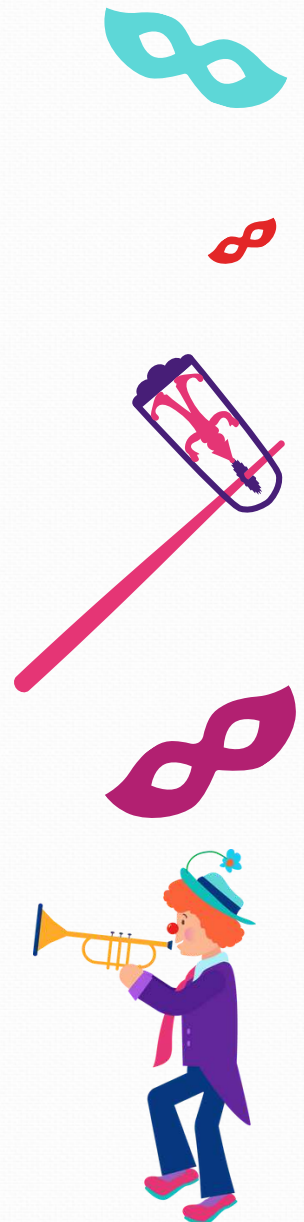
Reflection and Wrap-Up

Purim Memory Chain



Instructions:

1. You have 4 paper strips. On each strip, write:
 - * One new word you learned today
 - * One fact about Shushan Purim
 - * One thing Daniel did in the story
 - * One way you celebrate Purim
2. Read one of your strips aloud to the class.
3. Connect your strips to make a paper chain.
4. Join your chain with your classmates to create one long "Class Purim Memory Chain".





Purim Activity

Purim Vocabulary Picture Match– Just for fun:)

Draw a line between the words and the matching picture cards.



Mishloach Manot

(Purim gift baskets)

Megillah

(Scroll)

Costume

Gragger

(Noisemaker)

Coins

Mask

Wine



Clown

Crown

Hamantaschen

Candy

Ribbon

Parade

Balloons

Purim in Yerushalayim

Created by Rabbi Yehoshua Spodek

A joint project between Nefesh B'Nefesh and the Ministry of Education, Haredi District

Teacher Answer Key

Editing: Miriam Burstein

Design: Miriam Levy

Shushan Purim in Yerushalayim

Pre-Reading: Purim Celebration Brainstorm

Purpose: To activate prior knowledge about Purim and practice new vocabulary.

Materials on page 3: A paper with "Purim" written in the center

Instructions: 1. Elicit Purim words, write them on the board, and add more words that are connected to Purim.

2. Divide the class into small groups (3-4 students).

3. Ask students to fill out the mind map about Purim:

- a) What do people wear? (costume, crown)
- b) What do people do? (celebrate, activities, parade)
- c) What do people give? (baskets)
- d) What do people smell? (food)
- e) Where do people celebrate? (neighborhood)
- f) What do people eat/drink? (Hamantaschen, wine)

4. Students use the words from the board and add their own ideas to the mind map.

5. Groups take turns sharing one idea from their map.

6. Teacher creates a class mind map combining student ideas.

Discussion Questions:

- a) How do you celebrate Purim?
- b) What is your favorite Purim activity?

Activity 1: Purim Vocabulary Picture Match

Purpose: To introduce key vocabulary related to Purim celebrations.

Materials on page 5:

Picture cards showing: costume, crown, baskets, parade, Jerusalem walls, etc.

Vocabulary cards with English words

Instructions:

1. Arrange students in pairs.

2. Give each pair a set of picture cards and vocabulary cards.

3. Students match the pictures with the correct vocabulary words.

4. Teacher reviews the matches with the whole class.

5. For each word, teacher models pronunciation and students repeat.

6. Teacher asks simple yes/no or choice questions:

- a) "Is this a costume or a crown?" (pointing to picture)
- b) "Do you wear a costume for Purim?"
- c) "Are these baskets or bags?"

Vocabulary Practice Activities:

Activity 2: Word clues

smell * parade * basket * crown * neighborhood * hero * activities *
celebrate * set * connected * laid out * alarm * can't wait * costume

- * Something you wear on Purim - ...costume...
- * What a king wears on his head - ...crown...
- * What you do to clothes before wearing them - ...lay out...
- * What you can do with your nose - ...smell...
- * Things to do for fun - ...activities...
- * Where many families live - ...neighborhood...
- * People walking together in costumes - ...parade...
- * What you do with your alarm clock - ...set...
- * What wakes you up in the morning - ...alarm...
- * A brave person - ...hero...
- * How you feel about a special day - ...can't wait...
- * What you put gifts in - ...basket...
- * What you do on holidays - ...celebrate...
- * Joined or together; how people feel in a family - ...connected...



Vocabulary Practice Activities:

Activity 3: Complete the Story

smell * parade * basket * crown * neighborhood * hero * activities *
celebrated * set * connected * laid out * alarm * can't wait * costume

Today is Purim! I (1)_laid out_ my beautiful (2)_costume_ on my bed last night. It has a gold (3)_crown_ because I want to be the king from the Purim story. My mother wanted me to be Mordechai, the (4)_hero_. She made cookies to put in (5)_baskets_ for our friends. The (6)_smell_ of baking filled our house.

We have many (7)_activities_ planned for today. All the people in the (8)_neighborhood_ are having a big (9)_parade_. I (10)_set_ my (11)_alarm_ for early morning because I (12)_can't wait_ to join the fun!

I feel (12)_connected_ to all the people who have (14)_celebrated_ this holiday for many years.

Activity 4: Word Categories

Things you wear	Things you do	Places	Feelings/Emotions
crown	activities	neighborhood	connected
costume	set alarm		can't wait
	lay out		
	celebrate		
	parade		

Reading Comprehension Activities

Activity A: Understanding the Story

- ___1___ Daniel lays out his costume on his bed.
- ___3___ Daniel helps make baskets with food.
- ___4___ Daniel walks with his father in Jerusalem.
- ___5___ Daniel visits his grandmother.
- ___6___ Daniel sees lights on the city walls.
- ___2___ Daniel sets his alarm for morning.

Activity B: True or False Questions

- 1. ___F___ Daniel dressed as King Ahasuerus for Purim.
- 2. ___T___ Daniel's father helped him make a special crown for his costume.
- 3. ___T___ Daniel and his mother filled baskets with hamantaschen and candies.
- 4. ___F___ Daniel's grandmother gave him a gift basket.
- 5. ___F___ Daniel set his alarm clock for late afternoon.
- 6. ___T___ Jerusalem celebrates Purim one day later because it has walls like Shushan.



Reading Comprehension Activities

Activity C: Basic Understanding Questions

1. Jerusalem
2. Mordechai/robe, beard, crown
3. Hamantaschen cookies, candies, and grape juice
4. Daniel's grandmother
5. He would be "the best Mordechai in all of Yerushalayim!"
6. Because it has walls like Shushan
7. listening to the Megillah at shul, joining the neighborhood parade, and eating a seudah with his family.
8. He felt connected to thousands of years of Jewish history and couldn't wait for morning to come.

Activity D: Creative Writing Activity: My Purim Journal

Example answer:

Dear Journal,

---Today I celebrated Purim! I laid out my costume last night- I dressed as a hero with a shiny crown. In the morning, my alarm rang early because I couldn't wait for the parade in our neighborhood. The smell of fresh hamantaschen made me hungry!----



Reading Comprehension Activities

Activity E: Speaking Activity: Role-Playing Dialogue

Materials :

Role cards (on page 12)

Vocabulary words

Simple props (optional): paper crown, small basket

Activity F: Creative Group Task: Plan a Purim Celebration

Materials:

Large paper or page 13.

Markers or colored pencils

Vocabulary words

Reflection and Wrap-Up

Purim Memory Chain

Materials:

Colorful paper strips

Pencils

Tape or stapler

