



START

What makes tonight different from all other nights? Why do we dip vegetables into saltwater?

Why don't we eat bread for eight days? Why do we eat bitter herbs? Why do we lean while drinking wine (or grape juice!)? So many unique customs to find out about. The answer:

We do all of this because

PHARAOH



CHABAD
MITZVAH
SOCIETY

over 3,000 years ago, we were slaves to Pharaoh in Egypt.

"Those weak rulers before me allowed Joseph and his family to live freely in this land—but no more!" Pharaoh said. He was worried that the Jews were multiplying too much; growing too strong and too powerful. He decided to show them who's boss with the harshest labor, fit for a slave.

EGYPTIAN TASKMASTER



They were forced to build vast cities on unstable ground, which collapsed as soon as they were constructed. They gathered straw and mud to make their own bricks, work through the night, and then were left to forage in the fields for food. "How much longer will G-d put us through this?"

JEWISH SLAVE



MITZVAH
SOCIETY

they cried. "When will our redemption come?"

The Egyptian taskmasters made the Jews' lives as miserable as possible. But no matter how much suffering the Jews were put through, the nation still multiplied faster than ever. Then Pharaoh's star gazers told him that a Jewish baby would overthrow his rule. So he made a new decree against all newborn Jewish boys—throw them in the Nile!

One day the daughter of mighty King Pharaoh, Batyah, was cooling off in the Nile.

MIRIAM



She noticed a tiny newborn floating in a basket. Her arms stretched out and she was able to pull the basket toward her. "Moshe," she called him, and brought him to the palace to raise him as her own. Little did she know that one day this baby would grow up to be her father's downfall.

Miriam, the sister of Moshe (Moses), hid by the Nile river to save her baby brother. Miriam made sure the baby was only nursed by Jewish women.

Moshe grew up and became a humble shepherd. One day when he was watching his flock,

MOSHE



Hashem's voice rang out from a flaming bush. "You must take the Jewish people out of Egypt!" Hashem told Moshe.

Aharon was Moshe's brother. He went along to help Moshe convince Pharaoh to let the Jewish people go.

"No!" says Pharaoh, "I will not let your people go!"

"Give our people freedom!" Moses begged, "so they can serve G-d."

But Pharaoh wouldn't budge.

And with that, the 10 plagues begin.

AHARON



The land of Egypt was in chaos. First, all water turned into blood. Then thousands of slimy frogs invaded every home. Then lice crawled over the skin of every Egyptian. After that, hordes of wild animals trampled over the entire country, destroying everything in their path. Next, a plague struck every animal—cows, sheep, pigs, and chickens. Following that, big painful boils burst out on the skin of every Egyptian. Then huge fire and ice balls rained down. A cloud of locust ate every last morsel of food in the fields. Deep darkness descended over every home.

NACHSHON BEN AMINADAV



Finally, Hashem came to kill every first born.

At this point, Pharaoh was terrified. He himself was a firstborn, and he feared for his life.

"Fine, go!" he ordered Moshe. The Jewish people finished eating the Passover lamb offering and left the next day, sacks of dough on their backs baking in the sun without time to rise.

After a few days of traveling, the Jews heard a mighty roar behind them—the Egyptian army was chasing them!

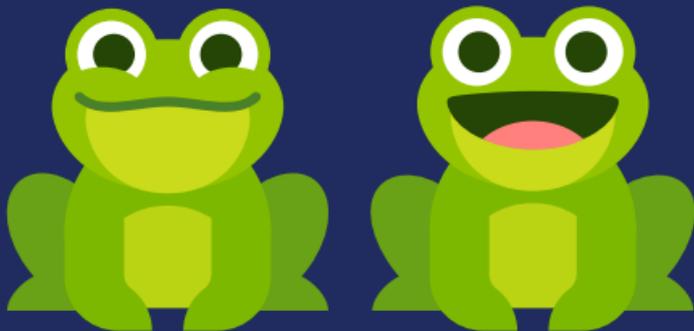
BATYAH



In front of them lay the Red Sea,
and if they kept going they would
drown! One brave man, Nachshon
ben Aminadav, walked into the
water. "If Hashem says to go
forward, we go forth!" he said with
confidence. Hashem made a miracle
and the sea split!

Thousands of years later, Pharoah is
long gone, but the voice of Egypt
still lives within us.

FROGS



It's the voice that tells us to sleep in a little longer, eat one more cookie, and push off our chores until tomorrow. But Hashem didn't just take us out of Egypt once, Hashem gives us freedom every day and in every generation. We don't need to be slaves to the negative voices in our heads. As we learn from the Passover seder, tonight as we eat Matzah, we gain the power to be truly free.

END



PASSOVER LAMB



EXODUS TALES

Give out one story card to each person. (If you have less than ten people at your Seder, some people can get more than one card.) The person who has the "start" card reads first. Everyone listens up, waiting to hear when it's their turn to read by listening out for context clues. Together, the group keeps taking turns until the whole Passover story is read!

EXODUS TALES



SEDER HEADBANDS

The youngest person at the table goes first. Put a card into the headbands holder- and have them wear it facing away from them.

They have to guess what name is on their card by asking yes or no questions to the table. If they are able to guess their character before the timer runs out, they win! Keep playing, moving clockwise, until everyone gets a chance to play.



SEDER HEADBANDS

