

# Passover Prep!



Passover's coming... but don't panic! You have a full week to craft a creative seder, and this hand-out is full of ideas to get you started! Some advice... sit down and read through your haggadah immediately, plan what readings you will include and how you will integrate songs and activities that will engage and involve your family and guests. There is no rule that a Seder should be boring, so let the creative juices flow!

The purpose of the Seder is to retell the story of the Exodus from Egypt, to transmit the values, the history and the meaning of the holiday to your children. The purpose of this workshop is to offer ideas for how to do so in a way that is both meaningful and fun! In this hand-out, I have provided tips, ideas, song suggestions, and sites to visit on the Internet to help you develop your own unique Seder. Please feel free to contact me by email, and do let me know how it goes! ☺

Chag Sameach!

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# Creative Seder Ideas...

## 1. Name that Plague

- Give out plague bags... buy them or MAKE your own.
- Challenge everyone to name a plague... use plague cards (see next page)
- Invite children to draw pictures of the plagues to decorate the room.
- Provide coloring-book haggadot or placemats for children decorate.
- Sing and dance to Ten Plagues in Egypt Land ([www.peterandellen.com](http://www.peterandellen.com))... give each child a plague mask to wear.



## 2. Passover Games

- Word finds and mazes.
- Jewish Jeopardy... <http://kosher4passover.com/jewpardy.htm>
- Who Knows Why? - instead of explaining the traditions or reading the story, challenge guests to answer questions.



## 3. And You Were There - Bibliodrama

- Provide props and costumes so children can act out the story.
- Sing and dance as you build cities for Pharaoh, cross the sea, etc.
- Transform your room into a tent, sit on the floor on cushions, do a dramatic telling (rather than reading) of the story.
- Use puppets to help the story come to life.



## 4. Percussion and Musical Participation

- Provide tambourines and other percussion instruments.
- Encourage budding musicians to prepare to lead a song at seder.



## Seder Planning Tips:

1. Outline your Seder...include readings, prayers, and songs.
2. Make song-sheets.
3. Organize participation in advance.
4. Make notes in leader's Haggadah.
5. Involve your children/guests in advance so they feel ownership and anticipation.

What did the Israelites eat in the desert?

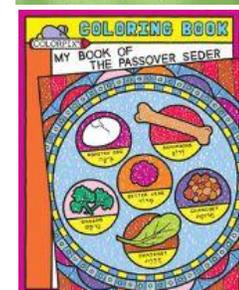
What is the Hebrew word for Passover?

What was the name of Moses' wife?

Why do we eat matzah on Passover?

I am hidden, then I am found. You cannot finish the Seder without me. Who am I?

Name the Four Sons.



## Internet Sites:

1. [www.torah tots.com](http://www.torah tots.com)
2. [www.chaikids.com](http://www.chaikids.com)
3. [www.judaism.com](http://www.judaism.com)
4. [www.allthingsjewish.com](http://www.allthingsjewish.com)
5. [www.aish.com](http://www.aish.com)

# Sing, Sing, Sing...

## Traditional Seder Songs:

1. Four Questions... a wonderful learning track that allows children to echo each phrase is available at [www.carolboydleon.com](http://www.carolboydleon.com) on the Dayeinu Haggadah page.
2. Dayeinu... this is a joyful song, so play a recording and sing along!
3. Avadim Hayinu... add percussion to this classic... drums, shakers, bells... purchase an assortment at [www.4lyons.com](http://www.4lyons.com), [www.musictreasures.com](http://www.musictreasures.com), [www.orientaltrading.com](http://www.orientaltrading.com)
4. L'Shana Haba-a... another great song just begging for percussion!
5. Chad Gadya... sing it or read it, but only one breath per passage!

## Recommended Passover CDs for Children:

1. Pesaschtick, A Collection of Family Passover Songs & Parodies by Stephanie Shore, Susan Shane-Linder & Deborah Silver, [www.singinwithsusan.com](http://www.singinwithsusan.com)
2. ShirLaLa Pesach, Outrageously Hip Jewish Kiddie Rock by Shira Kline, [www.shirlala.com](http://www.shirlala.com)
3. It`s Seder Time by Andi Joseph, [www.JewishMusic.com](http://www.JewishMusic.com)
4. Dayenu! The Passover Story in Song by Carol Boyd Leon, [www.carolboydleon.com](http://www.carolboydleon.com)
5. Bring The Sabbath Home and Sing Shalom by Peter and Ellen Allard... [www.peterandellen.com](http://www.peterandellen.com)

## Fun Parodies - On-Line Song Clips:

1. Pharaoh Pharaoh by Mah Tov... <http://cdbaby.com/mp3lofi/mahtovu3-01.m3u>
2. Who Led the Slaves Out by Rabbi Joe Black... <http://www.soundswrite.com/audio/black/sabbatical/WhoLed.ram>
3. Matzarena by The Pesaschticks... <http://www.singinwithsusan.com/clips/d204.mp3>
4. Pesach Bamba by Shira Kline... [http://www.shirlala.com/sounds/pesach/01\\_Track\\_01.mp3](http://www.shirlala.com/sounds/pesach/01_Track_01.mp3)

# C'mon, let's all sing a song together...



## Pharaoh, Pharaoh by Mah Tovv to the tune of Louie Louie

Pharaoh, Pharaoh, ooh baby, let my people go! No! Yeah Yeah Yeah, Yeah!  
Pharaoh, Pharaoh, ooh baby, let my people go!

A burnin' bush told me just the other day that I should go to Egypt and say:  
It's time to let my people be free, listen to God if you won't listen to me! I said... (chorus)

Well me and my people goin' to the Red Sea with Pharaoh's army comin' after me.  
I took my staff, put it in the sand, and all of God's people walked on dry land singin'... (chorus)

Well Pharaoh's army was a-comin' too, so what'd'ya think that God did do?  
Had me take my staff and clear my throat, and all of Pharaoh's army did the dead man's float! (chorus)

Well that's the story of the stubborn goat, Pharaoh should have known that chariots don't float!  
The answer is simple, it's easy to find, when God says, "GO!" you had better mind! (chorus)

## Standing at the Sea by Peter and Ellen Allard

Standing at the sea, mi chamocha (3x) freedom's on our way.  
Singing and dancing, mi chamocha (3x) freedom's on our way.  
They're coming up behind, mi chamocha (3x) freedom's on our way.  
Bound no more, mi chamocha (3x) freedom's on our way.

### Chorus:

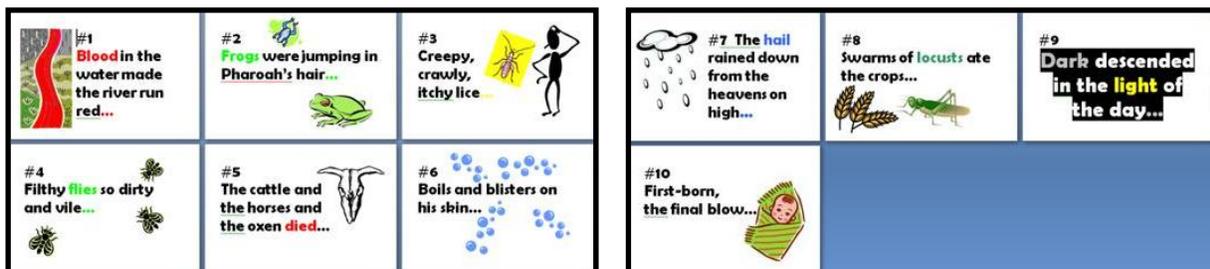
Freedom (6x), freedom's on our way.

The sea she parts, mi chamocha (3x) freedom's on our way.  
Walking through the water, mi chamocha (3x) freedom's on our way.  
On the other side, mi chamocha (3x) freedom's on our way.  
One God, mi chamocha (3x) freedom's on our way. (chorus)

## Ten Plagues in Egypt Land by Peter and Ellen Allard

One, two, three, four, five, six, seven, eight,  
nine ten plagues in Egypt land. (repeat)

1. Blood in the water made the river run red, ten plagues in Egypt land,  
Pharaoh shoulda listened to what God said, ten plagues in Egypt land!
2. Frogs were jumping in Pharaoh's hair... Pharaoh didn't like it but the frogs didn't care...
3. Creepy, crawly, itchy lice... Mess with the Holy One, better think twice...
4. Filthy flies so dirty and vile... Not exactly Pharaoh's style...
5. The cattle and the horses and the oxen died... I won't give up old Pharaoh cried...
6. Boils and blisters on his skin... Give it up Pharaoh you're never gonna win...
7. The hail rained down from the heavens on high... Hurt so much made Pharaoh cry...
8. Swarms of locusts ate the crops... Hard-hearted Pharaoh just wouldn't stop...
9. Dark descended in the light of the day... Pharaoh was lost, couldn't find his way...
10. First-born, the final blow... Finally Pharaoh let the people go...



## Oh, Listen by Shirley Cohen

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Oh listen (3x) King Pharaoh; Oh listen, oh listen, please let my people go!  
They want to go away! They work too hard all day! King Pharaoh, King Pharaoh, What do you say?  
No, no, no, I will not let them go! (2x)

## One Morning

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One morning when Pharaoh woke up in his bed, there were frogs in his bed, and frogs on his head,  
Frogs on his nose and frogs on his toes, frogs here, frogs there, frogs were jumping everywhere!

## Let My People Go by Sally Heckleman to the tune of I've Been Working on the Railroad

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The Jews were busy building cities all the live-long day  
The Jews were busy building cities and they did it Pharaoh's way  
Moses tried to get them out of Egypt; he said, "Let my people go,"  
But stubborn Pharaoh wouldn't listen; he kept on saying, "No!"  
"Let my people go" - "No!" "Let my people go" - "No!" "Please let my people go-go-go!" No!  
"Let my people go" - "No!" "Let my people go" - "No!" "Please let my people go!"

## Building Cities by Shirley Cohen

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Bang, bang, bang, hold your hammer low, Bang, bang, bang, give a heavy blow!  
**For it's work, work, work, every day and every night,**  
**For it's work, work, work, when it's dark and when it's light.**  
Dig, dig, dig, get your shovel deep, Dig, dig, dig, there's no time to sleep...  
Lift, lift, lift, lift that boulder high; lift, lift, lift 'til you reach the sky...

## Things are Bad in Egypt to the tune of If You're Happy and You Know It

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There were frogs jumping everywhere! Jumpity-jump! (2x)  
They hopped through Pharaoh's door, now they're hopping on his floor.  
There were frogs jumping everywhere! Jumpity-Jump!



There were lice crawling everywhere! Itchity-itch! (2x)  
Pharaoh scratched 'til he was sore, then he scratched and scratched some more  
There were lice crawling everywhere! Itchity-itch!

There were locusts swarming everywhere! Munchity-munch! (2x)  
They ate all of Pharaoh's wheat, there was nothing left to eat!  
There were locusts swarming everywhere! Munchity-munch!

There was inky darkness everywhere! Blinkity-blink! (2x)  
Ouch! Pharaoh stubbed his toe, Oops! Now he bumped his nose.  
There was inky darkness everywhere! Blinkity-blink!

## Where is Baby Moses, Moses, Moses?

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Where is baby Moses, Moses, Moses? Where is baby Moses? He's in the River Nile.  
He's floating in a basket, a basket, a basket. He's floating in a basket—in the River Nile.  
The princess she is swimming, swimming, swimming. The princess she is swimming, in the River Nile.  
She finds the baby Moses, Moses, Moses. She finds the baby Moses, in the River Nile.  
She takes him to the palace, the palace, the palace. She takes him to the palace, along the River Nile.  
And there our Moses grows up, grows up, grows up. And there our Moses grows up, along the River Nile.



## Moses, Moses, Take Off Your Shoes by Emily Friedman

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Moses was a shepherd tending his sheep (3x) when he heard a voice that said...

**Moses, Moses, take off your shoes (3x), for this is holy ground.**

A bush was burning, but it was not consumed (3x), when he heard a voice that said...  
The voice told Moses, You must go back (3x), and set your people free...

## **Sing, Dance, Jump and Shout** by Lisa Baydush

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Sing, dance, jump and shout, play your tambourine;

Sing, dance, jump and shout, be glad we're free!

Miriam led the way joyously; Follow Miriam, be glad we're free! (chorus)

Mi Chamocha ba-eylim Adonai! Sing a song of praise, ev'ry girl and boy! (chorus)

## **Where, Oh Where is the Afikomen?** to the tune of **Ten Little Indians**

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Where, oh where is the Afikomen? (3x) Half a matzah from the matzah plate!

Daddy hid it, let's go find it... Find the matzah, get a little present...

## **Matzarena** to the tune of **Macarena** by Stephanie Shore, Deborah Silver, Susan Shane-Linder

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I am so glad that it's time to eat Matzah, It's so crunchy, it's so good, and it comes in a boxa;

I am so glad that it's time to eat Matzah, Hey, Matzarena!

## **Lotsa, Lotsa Matza** by Peter and Ellen Allard

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On Pesach we eat matza, lotsa, lotsa matza. It's yummy in the tummy, Lotsa, lotsa matza.

Doot doot doot doot doot doot doot... (end: Yay, Pesach!)

On Pesach we eat chicken, finger lickin' chicken, it's yummy in the tummy, finger lickin' chicken,  
and lotsa, lotsa matzah, doot doot's...

...smelly in the belly gefilte fish ...rolla (4x) matza balls ...hot (4x) horse radish ...chop chop charoset

## **Pesach Bamba** by Shira Kline, parody to **La Bamba** by Richie Valens

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**Pesach, Pesach** (4x)

We're gonna eat lots of matzah, Crunchy, crunchy, crunchy matza on Pe—sach!

A full week of matzah, Lotsa, lotsa, lotsa matzah on Pesach! **Pesach, Pesach...**

We're gonna ask the Four Questions, We got a whole lot of questions on Pe—sach!

1-2-3-4 questions, Ma-ma-ma-ma-ma nishtana on Pesach! **Pesach, Pesach...**

Before the seder's over, we gotta find the afikomen on Pesach!

Where, where, where's that Afikomen? Afiki-ki-ki komen on Pesach! **Pesach, Pesach...**

## **Avadim Hayinu**

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Avadim hayinu, ha-yi-nu, Atah b'nei chorin, b'nei chorin

A-va-dim— ha—yi-nu, Atah (clap, clap) Atah (clap, clap) b'nei chorin,

A-va-dim— ha—yi-nu, Atah, Atah, b'nei chorin, b'nei chorin, Atah, Atah, b'nei chorin, b'nei chorin

## **L'shana Haba'a** by M. Nathanson

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L'shana haba'a (3x) bi y'-ru-sha-la-yim. (2x)

L'shana-a-a haba'a-a-a, L'shana haba'a bi y'-ru-sha-la-yim!

## **Dayeinu**

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Ilu hotzi, hotzi'anu hotzi'anu mimitzrayim, hotzi'anu mimitzrayim, dayeinu!

Dai-dai-ein-u, dai-dai-ein-u, dai-dai-ein-u, dayeinu, dayeinu... dayeinu (2x)

Ilu natan, natan lanu, natan lanu, et ha-Torah, natan lanu et hatorah, dayeinu!

# *Happy Passover!*

*Workshop materials prepared by Lisa Baydush © 2008*

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*For more information, please visit [www.ShirSynergy.com](http://www.ShirSynergy.com).*