**Beit Rabban Parashah Page**

**Parashat Bereishit פרשת בראשית**

**Genesis 1:1-6:8 בראשית א:א-ו:ח**

After going to the trouble of creating so many different kinds of animals, you might expect that HaShem already had names for each of them, but in the parashah this week, we read that in fact HaShem gave the task of naming the animals to Adam (Genesis 2:19-20).

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| 19) HaShem created from the earth all of the beasts of the field, and all of the birds in the sky, and brought each to Adam to see what he called them—and whatever Adam called each living thing, that would be its name. 20) Adam gave names to all of the wild beasts, and to the birds in the sky, and to the animals in the fields, but for Adam there was no suitable companion. | **יט)** וַיִּצֶר ה' אֱלֹהִים מִן-הָאֲדָמָה, כָּל-חַיַּת הַשָּׂדֶה וְאֵת כָּל-עוֹף הַשָּׁמַיִם, וַיָּבֵא אֶל-הָאָדָם, לִרְאוֹת מַה-יִּקְרָא-לוֹ; וְכֹל אֲשֶׁר יִקְרָא-לוֹ הָאָדָם נֶפֶשׁ חַיָּה, הוּא שְׁמוֹ. **כ)** וַיִּקְרָא הָאָדָם שֵׁמוֹת, לְכָל-הַבְּהֵמָה וּלְעוֹף הַשָּׁמַיִם, וּלְכֹל, חַיַּת הַשָּׂדֶה; וּלְאָדָם, לֹא-מָצָא עֵזֶר כְּנֶגְדּוֹ. |

When we call something or someone by a name, we are expressing our relationship to them. Think about people in your life who have different names, depending on who is speaking to them. What do these different names show about them? What different names do parents, friends or teachers call you? How do you feel when you hear people call you those different names?

Why do you think that HaShem wanted Adam to be the one to name the animals? How does the idea of naming things connect to the very last phrase above, ‘but for Adam there was no suitable companion’?