

MA CHADASH?

A WEEKLY NEWSLETTER FOR SHALOM TORAH ACADEMY OF CENTRAL NEW JERSEY

Let's Celebrate!

T hank you for all the
H ours you spend,
A ttention you give,
N eeds that you tend,
K nowledge you pass on,

Y our special touch,
O ffering guidance,
U ndaunted by much,

T ime you spend planning,
E fforts you make,
A ngles to learning,
C hances you take.
H ere's to our teachers,
E ach one a gem.
R ecognized now; we
S alute them!

Parshas Emor at a Glance

Parsha in a Paragraph

A project of Klal Govoha. Klal Govoha is an organization founded by Ira Zlotowitz in memory of his father, Rabbi Meir Zlotowitz. Check out their website: klalgovoha.org

EMOR: Laws of Kohanim and their household • Parameters of acceptable Korbanos • Shabbos and holidays • Description of the lighting of the Menorah and the arrangement of the Lechem HaPanim • The Megadeif curses Hashem, and is killed on Hashem's command • The punishment for murder • The penalties for damages.

Pirkei Avos Lesson- Chapter 4

It is customary to study a chapter from the Tractate Avos, or Pirkei Avos, in the weeks in between Pesach and Shavuos. Pirkei Avos are filled with the ethical teachings and wisdom of the great sages of the Mishnah.

Background

The first Mishnah of this week's chapter, or perek, discusses universally recognized attributes of greatness and the proper way to understand them: Wisdom, Strength, Wealth and Honor. Regarding Wealth, Ben Zoma says 'who is wealthy? He who is happy with his lot.'

Question

While being happy with one's lot is certainly very nice, that does not make a man wealthy- it makes him happy! It would seem strange for Ben Zoma to merely be re-translating what the word 'wealth' means. Wealth means someone who has a lot of money. Period.

What is Ben Zoma saying?

Answer

To answer this question I would like to depict two different companies:

- Company A has big fancy offices, sells billions and billions of dollars of merchandise every year and employs tens of thousands of people.
- Company B is a small, locally owned grocery store that employs a handful of people, has sales that amount to just about \$1 million and has cramped office space that is shared by 3 people.

Which company is wealthier?

Company A certainly seems to have a lot more going for it than Company B. But what if Company A operates at a loss every year and ends up declaring bankruptcy while every year Company B turns out a few hundred thousand dollar profit? Now which one is wealthier?

What Ben Zoma is telling us is that in order to determine if someone, or something, is wealthy you need to look at, not how much money they have, but at how much money they have ***in relation to how much money they need!*** And the ***ONLY way to achieve having more money than what you need- is to be happy with your lot.***

Lesson

So often in life we think that if we just get 'X' we will be satisfied. If we just earn a little more money we will have enough. Attaining these goals will never EVER satisfy us. Rather the way to satisfy one's self is to look at what he does have and be happy and contented with that.

If you don't do this then you will automatically go from small wants or "needs" to bigger and bigger and more and more expensive wants or "needs". You will NEVER have enough money for what you need. That is the way Hashem made people.

However, if you do follow Ben Zoma's advice and you look at what you have and content yourself with that- you will be wealthy. Really wealthy. As in you will have more money than that which you need.

Wishing you a wonderful Shabbos!

Rabbi Eli Meir Kramer

A Highlight from our Judaic Studies Department

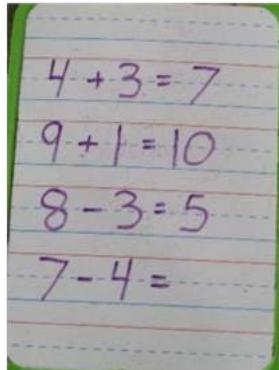
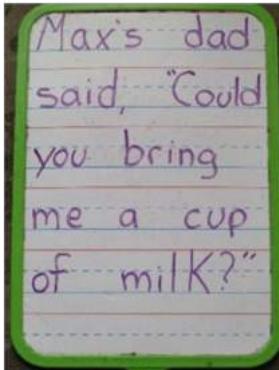
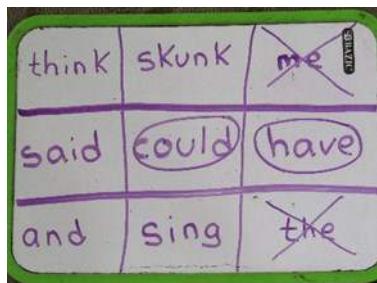
Rabbi Eli Stewart, 6 Grade Boys class

The 6th grade boys are learning across 3 states. It is nice just to get to see and talk to each other daily. We are starting a new Gemara, Daf **T**ו, which incorporates much of what we have learned previously in Perek Elu Metzios. The boys have retained the understanding of many common Gemara terms which are very useful for our new topic. The structure of this Gemara is great preparation for future Gemaros they will be learning as they get older. If we master what we learn now, we can tackle future topics with confidence that they can also be mastered!

A Peek into our Preschool

Morah Ester Baila Berl, Kindergarten class

The children in Kindergarten have been enjoying reading through Google Meet! All of the children received a mini dry erase board that they brought home and we are certainly putting them to good use! They place their dry erase board next to their computer to utilize while learning. As a word is dictated, the children spell the words on their boards and hold it up for all to see. Displaying their work has been a great motivational tool. We have also been doing math on the whiteboard. Each child solves the math problem and writes the answer on their whiteboard. The children are very proud of their accomplishments! Although we miss being together in school, we are thrilled to see everyone's smiling faces each day on our screens. Google Meet enables us to feel like a class again!



A Highlight from General Studies

Mrs. Shoshana Stern, 5th Grade Class

The Fifth Grade Writers have been typing away! They are completing a personal narrative of a story that they want to share. Besides writing such nice stories with descriptions, similes, and dialogue, these creative students have made covers that are true masterpieces. The fifth grade class is full of excellent writers! Stay tuned for details of their presentations where they will present their excellent work for all to see!

Fractions, mixed numbers, simplifying, those are just a few of the important math words you will hear in the fifth grade zoom class. From converting improper fractions to mixed numbers to simplifying fractions to their most simplest terms, the fifth grade math whizzes are really accomplishing! Adding and subtracting and multiplying fractions, we know them all! Soon, we will be working on dividing!

Did you hear the news? The fifth graders finished their novel study of The Sign of the Beaver! We made predictions as we read along and some of us predicted the ending that the author chose! Be sure to look out for our own endings as we work on our very own sequels to the novel!

In Science, we have completed a unit on the digestive system. If you want to know how our cells get the nutrients they need, just ask a fifth grade student! Soon, we'll be pros on the respiratory system too!



Sunday, May 10	Mother's Day
Tuesday, May 12	Lag BaOmer
Monday, May 25	Memorial Day - No Sessions
Thursday, May 28	Erev Shavous
Friday, May 29	Shavous - No Sessions
Wednesday, June 17	Last Day of School for Students



Please Daven for:

Ruchoma Aidel bas Fraida Breindel

Recipes For Fun

Please enjoy these recipes. If you would like to share a recipe in the MaChadash, please email office@shalomtorah.org

Frozen Oobleck Sensory Play

You will need:

2 cups of cornflour (cornstarch)
1 cup of water
Food coloring
Tray to pour the oobleck into
Ice cube trays



How to make frozen oobleck

To make the oobleck simply mix the water and cornflour together and pour it into a tray. If you want coloured oobleck add a little food colouring. We added blue colouring to make it look like water for the fish to swim in.

I love getting the kids involved in the process of making the oobleck. Its always fun to explore the difference between the cornflour by itself and once water has been added. (scroll down to see a video of the activity in action)

Once you have had time to explore and play with the oobleck a little put the tray into the freezer for an hour or so. Mix up a little extra oobleck and pour it into ice cube trays. You may want to use a few different colours so that you can explore what the colours do as they melt and mix together. We love using different shaped ice cube trays, for this activity we used the fish ice cube tray from ikea.

Full instructions on how to make and play with frozen oobleck here - <https://www.messylittlemonster.com/2017/02/frozen-oobleck-toddler-science-sensory-play.html>

How to Make Homemade Bubbles

You will need:

4 cups warm water
1/2 cup sugar
1/2 cup blue Dawn dish soap



INSTRUCTIONS

Step #1. Whisk the sugar and water.

Whisk the sugar into the warm water until the sugar dissolves.

Step #2. Whisk in the soap.

Add the dish soap and whisk to combine.

Step #3. Let sit.

This step is only if you have some patience or think to make the solution ahead of time. Letting the homemade bubbles sit for a couple of hours or even overnight helps them work a bit better, but is not strictly necessary.

Step #4. Blow bubbles.

Now it's time to blow bubbles with your new bubble solution!

Easy peasy, don't you think?

You can also add 1/4 cup of [vegetable glycerine](#) to your homemade bubble solution if you like (available from the drugstore or online). And/or 1/2 cup of corn starch. And/or 1 tablespoon of baking powder. Those each make the bubbles work *just a tad* better. **But this is the basic recipe and it works just fine on its own.** We usually simply have a big bowl or two of the bubble solution out and available to the kids. You can also hand individual mason jars with bubble solution to the kids. [Or re-use one of those no-spill bubble cups](#) for your homemade bubbles.