



Cakes and Miracles Teacher's Guide

Topic

Purim

Grade Level(s)

Primary

Goals for the Lesson/Activity

Students will

- Be able to articulate how seeing feels different than not seeing.
- Begin to understand how people with disabilities adapt to different situations.
- Experience different adaptations that people with disabilities use.

Materials needed

- *Cakes and Miracles* by Barbara Diamond Goldin

Background for Teachers

February is Jewish Disabilities Awareness Month (JDAM). Storybooks can be a wonderful way to raise sensitivity and awareness with young children. As Purim approaches, read the book *Cakes and Miracles: A Purim Tale* by Barbara Diamond Goldin to explore the topic of disability awareness with your class.

For more information about JDAM and for additional resources, check out

<https://www.facebook.com/JewishDisabilityAwarenessMonth> or

<http://inclusioninnovations.com/jdam/>

Description of Activities

1. Read the book *Cakes and Miracles: A Purim Tale*
2. After you read the book, ask students to close their eyes.
3. Reread a few pages.
4. Discuss how things feel different when you cannot see.
5. Ask students how Hershel adapted to not being able to see.
6. Ask your students to describe situations in which they have noticed people using adaptations to help them walk, move, see, communicate, hear, or read.
 - a. Some examples of possible student answers include: guide dogs, wheel chairs, walkers, audio amplifiers, sign language, and Braille.



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Extend the Learning.

- Consider bringing in a speaker from an adaptive sports club, a member of your community, a parent who can speak authoritatively on disability awareness.
- Sanctuary Fieldtrip! Does your synagogue have:
 - Large print *siddurim*?
 - Braille *siddurim*?
 - Headphones to amplify sound?
 - Ramps up to the *bimah*?
- Look online for local resources who can offer further information about particular adaptations.