



Benjy Can't Do It All – A Story for *Parashat Yitro*

by Alan Levin

Benjy Can't Do It All is a story about a boy who thinks he needs to do everything himself. It is for students in the intermediate grades.

Ideas for Teachers

This story can be used in different ways:

- To introduce *Yitro* or as a conclusion after studying it (Exodus 18:1-20:23)
- To illustrate how students can find meaning in Torah and make connections to their daily lives
- As a trigger to discuss cooperation and delegation

Enduring Understandings

- We can find meaning in Torah which will help with our relationships and our lives.
- All people, no matter how wise, can learn from others.

Possible Lesson Questions

- What lesson did Moses learn from his father-in-law, Jethro?
- Whom do you learn from? Do you learn different things from different people? What are some examples?
- Where do we find this Torah portion in our *Tanach*? What other stories surround this one? What is the context that we read this story in?
- Why did Benjy think he needed to do everything himself? Have you ever felt that way?
- How did Benjy try not to hurt other people's feelings even when he thought he should do everything himself?
- Is it easy or hard to ask for help? How/when do you ask for help?