



Dressing with Dignity – A Story for *Tetzaveh*

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While schools have varying degrees of dress codes, clothing choices should still be appropriate for the occasion. In this story, Benjy prepares for school in questionable clothing and his father provides guidance from the Torah and the Rabbis.

Ideas for Teachers

This story can be used in different ways:

- As a trigger for discussion on dress codes and whether behavior is influenced by dress
- To introduce the Torah portion *Tetzaveh*
- As part of a lesson on peer pressure

Enduring Understandings

- Torah can help provide guidelines for our daily lives.
- Our clothing can be a reflection of who we are and a way for us to show respect.

Possible Lesson Questions

- Why did Benjy's dad think he was dressed inappropriately for school?
- How does what you wear to play baseball, swim at the beach, and go to school differ? Why do you wear different things to different places or on different occasions?
- What would you tell Benji about this Torah portion and how it relates to his choice of clothing for school?
- Does dress influence behavior?
- How do we know a mailman, a member of the navy, or a nurse by their dress? How are uniforms important to a person's job, to the people that work with that person, or to the community where a person works?
- How do friends influence the way we dress?