



Passover Pyramid Matzah Holder

Topic

Passover

Grade Level(s)

Jr. High and Up, Family Project

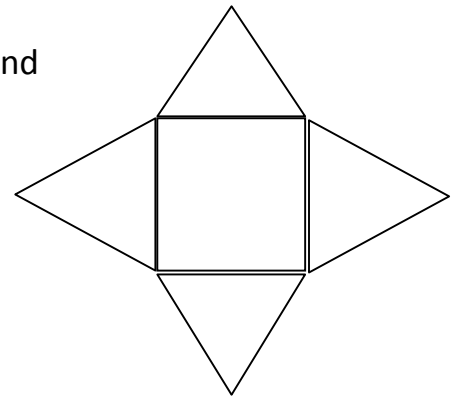
Goals for the Lesson/Activity

Students will

- Learn the four names of Passover
- Become familiar with the passages in the Torah that the different names for Passover are found
- Create a usable matzah holder

Materials needed

- 1 printed copy of the *Pesach Pyramid* packet
- 1 sheet of poster board
- Crystal clear packing tape
- 3 sheets of assorted decorative papers for background
- 3 sheets of beige paper
- Brown crayon , remove wrapper
- 1 *Velcro* dot or square
- A package of frog stickers (optional)
- Ruler and pencil



Background for Teachers

During the holiday of *Pesach*, we commemorate different aspects of *Yetziat Mitzrayim* (the Exodus from Egypt). These different aspects of commemoration are apparent in the different names that the holiday is given.

***Pesach* (Passover)** – God *pasach* (passed over) the homes of *B'nei Yisrael* (Children of Israel) as God hit the Egyptians with the plague of the Death of the Firstborn (*Shemot* 12:27).



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Chag HaMatzot (The Holiday of Unleavened Bread) – *B'nei Yisrael* ate matzah when they left Egypt because they did not have time to let their dough rise. God commanded us to eat matzah during the holiday in order to remember this time (*Shemot* 12:16, et al.). There is also a tradition that *B'nei Yisrael* ate matzah while enslaved in Egypt because matzah is a poor person's bread.

Chag HaAviv (The Spring Holiday) – The Torah teaches us that God took *B'nei Yisrael* out of Egypt during the spring. The Torah also teaches that *B'nei Yisrael* should commemorate the holiday during the spring (*Shemot* 13:4-5).

Zeman Cheiruteinu (The Time of Our Freedom) – The holiday commemorates when God took us out of slavery in Egypt and brought us into a state of freedom (*Shemot* 13:14).

Description of Activities

1. Assemble the triangle pattern. Trace four triangles and one 9" square onto the poster board and cut them out. Tape a triangle to each side of the square (see above diagram.)
2. Be sure to leave a tiny gap (less than 1/8 inch) between the square and the triangle so that the pyramid will fold up easily.
3. Label each side with one of the names of Passover and then decorate the side to reflect the theme of that name. Suggestions include:

Holiday of Spring

Flowers

Season of our Freedom

Paper people made out of [sheet music from Avadim Hayinu](#)

Holiday of Passover

Drawing or cut-out of a house with red "blood" over the door frame.

Holiday of Matzot

To make *matzah* paper, place a sheet of beige paper on a bumpy surface and then rub a brown crayon over the top of the paper. Trim the edges with jagged scissors. The paper will look like *matzah*!

4. Flip the entire piece over so that the inside of the pyramid is now facing up.



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5. Cut out the Torah passages.
6. Match up each name for the holiday on the outside triangles to the corresponding passage of Torah. Glue in place.
7. Decorate the bottom with more squares of *matzah* rubbings and frog stickers.
8. If possible, laminate the entire piece.
9. Cut 1 *Velcro* dot in half. Stick the pieces to the top of the pyramid, with opposite parts of the *Velcro* across from on another, so that it stays closed on your table.