



Fruit Trees of Israel Puzzle

- Game Cards
- Tour Guide Notes
- Tour Guide Direction Cards

Instructions for assembling the game:

1. Print as many copies of the *Tour Guide Notes* as needed.
2. Print and cut apart *Tour Guide Direction Cards*. Attach one direction card to each copy of the *Tour Guide Notes*.
3. Print and cut apart game cards – separate download.
4. The *Fruit Trees of Israel Gameboard* is a separate download. Print the gameboard on 11"x17" paper.

The tour guide's notes must have ripped when they were torn out of the notebook. Play the game to find the end of the sentence. (Be like trees and let light help you.)

When you have the answer, tell your teacher for a key.

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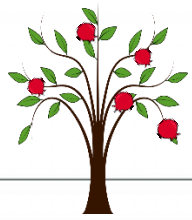
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Interesting Israel Tours

Tour Guide Notes Day 4 - Planting Trees.



At breakfast:

Let everyone know that they will be outside today and that it will be hot. Remind them to bring a *cova* (hat) and a *bakbuk mayim* (water bottle)

After everyone gets on the bus:

Count off to make sure everyone is there. Once you are on the road, teach them the Hebrew word for trees: *etzim*

Half an hour before reaching your destination, read:

Today, we will be planting trees with JNF. JNF is older than all of you, even older than your grandparents. The Jewish National Fund, JNF, was formed at the Fifth Zionist Congress in 1901. Today, it's known as *Karen Kayemet L'Yisrael*.

Do you have a blue box at home? One for tzedakah? Maybe you got it at religious school? That's the JNF box.

JNF does three main things in Israel, 1) land development, 2) water conservation and, here comes a big word: 3) afforestation. Afforestation is just a fancy word for planting trees.

No one knows exactly how many trees have been planted through JNF, but people think that it's about 2.5 million. That's a lot of trees!

Why would anyone need to plant trees in Israel? If you've read the Torah, you know there were trees here a long time ago. God created fruit trees on the third day. Adam and Eve got in trouble for eating from the wrong tree. Before Abraham went to sacrifice Isaac, he cut wood to make a fire from trees! When Moses sent spies to see if Israel would be a good place to live, they found figs and pomegranates – you guessed it – growing on trees! We call the Torah a “tree of life” because, just like trees, it gives us nourishment. And it's not just the Torah, we find the trees of Israel in later books of the Hebrew Bible too – cedars, palm trees, all kinds really.

I could spend all day talking about the trees that grow here but we don't have the time. I have a little game for you instead, with pictures and bible verses. We'll play it when we get off the bus.

Here's my point. Every day since you've come to the land of Israel, we've passed beautiful trees filled with delicious fruit. Well, except for the olive trees. Don't eat raw olives. Trust me.

Olives need to sit in a salt bath for a long time before they taste good, but then they taste delicious. The sun shines here most of the year. The light is good for growing things. But the soil isn't as cooperative – it can be rocky or sandy. And it's not always easy to find enough water.

Anyway, there are lots and lots of trees here now. But that wasn't always the case. As a matter of fact, when American author Mark Twain visited here in the 1860's, he wrote that he saw mostly desert, with very little growing. David Ben Gurion the first Prime Minister of Israel, saw potential, he said that the people already living in Israel and the new immigrants would...