

Hebrew Step-By-Step

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Distributed by JLearnHub & ShalomLearning

Packet 1

NEW LETTERS:

מ ש ב ת

NEW VOWELS:

ִ ֵ

Practice online with **JiTap** or at
www.JLearnHub.com → StudyHub → Hebrew Letters



How to Read Hebrew

When we read English, we read from left to right.

English →

Hebrew, however, goes from right to left.

← עברית

Draw an arrow through each line below to show the direction you would read it:

The first two have been done for you!

1. Blessed are You, Adonai our God, Ruler of the Universe →

2. בָּרוּךְ אַתָּה יְיָ, אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם ←

3. Who brings forth bread from the earth.

4. הַמוֹצִיא לֶחֶם מִן הָאָרֶץ.

5. שְׁמַע יִשְׂרָאֵל יְיָ אֱלֹהֵינוּ יְיָ אֶחָד!

6. Hear, Israel, Adonai is our God, Adonai is One!

7. May you all have a happy and sweet new year!

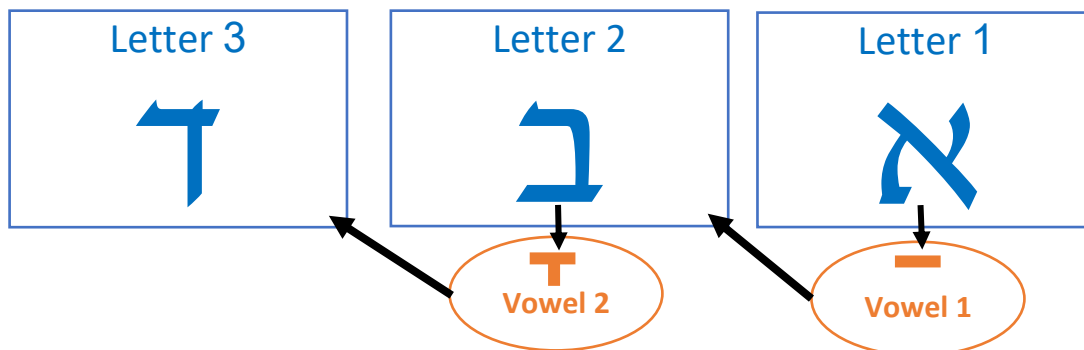
8. שָׁנָה טוֹבָה וּמְתוֹקָה לְכָל־אֶחָד!

יהוה ויהוה בן
שנת וחמש מאות שנה
ימי כפר שבע ועשרים שנה ושבע
ויהוה בן חמש מאות שנה
ויהוה
נח את שם אתחם ואת יפת ויהי כי הולך האדם
על פני האדמה ובנות ילדו להם ויראו בני האלהים
את בנות האדם כי טובת הנה ויקחו להם נשים מוכן
אשר בחרו ויאמר יהוה לא ידון רוחו באדם לעלם
בשר הוא בשר והיו יבויי מואת ועשרים שנה הנפלים
היו בארץ בימים ההם וגם אחריכן אשר יבאו בני
האלהים אל בנות האדם וילדו להם המון הגברים
אשר בעולם אנשי השם
וירא יהוה כי רבת רעת האדם בארץ וכל ימי
לבו רקרע כל היום ויחלם יהוה כי עשה
בארץ ויהעצב אל לבו ויאמר
האדם אשר בראתי

ויהוה רחם כי הרגו קין וכשת
קרא בשם יהוה
זה ספר תולדות אדם
ביום ברא אלהים אדם בדמות אלהים עשה אותו
זכר ונקבה בראם ויברך אותם ויקרא את שמם אדם
ביום הבראם ויהיו אדם שוכשים וכואת שנה ויולד
בדמותו כצלמו ויקרא את שמיו שיה ויהיו יבוי אדם
אחרי הולידו את שם שמינה מואת שנה ויולד בנה
ובנות ויהיו כל ימי אדם אשר חי השלע מאות שנה
ושוכשים שנה ויבית
שנים ומאת שנה ויולד את אנוש ויהיו שנה אחרי
הולידו את אנוש שבע שנים ושמינה מאות שנה
ויוולד בנים ובנות ויהיו כל ימי שנה שיהים עשרה
ויהיו ויחיה מאות שנה ויבית
ויהיו שנים שנה ויולד את קין ויהיו אנוש אחרי
השנים שנה ויחיה מאות שנה ושמינה מאות

This is what the Hebrew in the Torah scroll looks like! There are very strict rules about how a *Sofer*, a scribe, writes the Torah.

Every Hebrew written word has two “levels” – the letters (consonants) on the top level, and the vowels on the lower level. We read Hebrew words in an up-and-down, zig-zag pattern:



Draw arrows through each letter and vowel in the order you would read them if you knew what sounds they made:

The first one has been done for you as an example!

פְּרִי .2

אֶתָּה .1

בְּרַכָּה .4

הִזָּה .3

Now meet your first letter, the **Tav**!



The first row are the most common fonts you would see in a *siddur*/prayerbook.

Which one does your community's *siddur* use?

The second row has some calligraphy fonts you might see in other places like the Torah, on a tallit, in artwork...

The **Tav** makes the same sound as the English letter

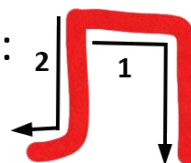
T

No matter what font the Tav is in, Tav always has that “**toe**” at the bottom-left, even if other parts of the letter are slightly different!

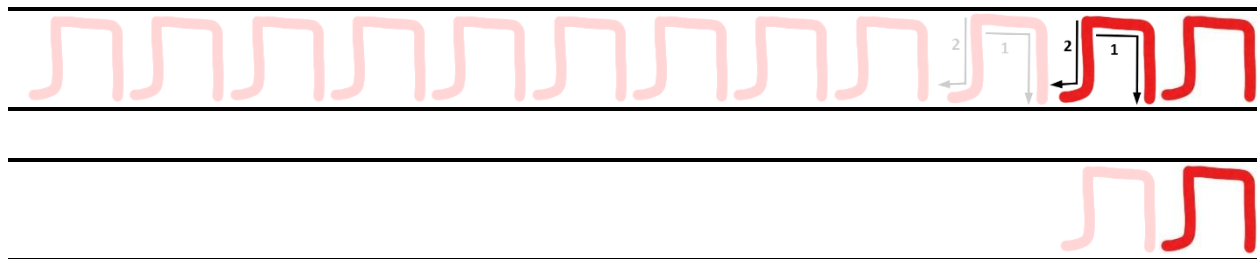
Circle the “**toe**” of each **Tav** above!



Write the Tav with two penstrokes:



Trace the Tav across the first line, then copy it across the second line on your own!



Meet your first vowels:

ah = **T** = **—**

Now put them together with the Tav...

tah = **ת** = **ת**

In Hebrew, both “ah” vowels are **always** pronounced like the A in “father” – also called an “open a.” It’s **never** the “flat a” like it is in “apple.”

Sometimes the Tav gets a dot in the middle, but that doesn’t change its sound.
(It used to, in older versions of Hebrew, but not anymore!)

ת = **ת**

Read the following lines out loud:

תת תת תת תת תת תת 1
תת תת תת תת תת תת 2

under

Read the Hebrew on the right out loud,
then match each one to its English sound on the left!

TA

TAT

TATA

TATAT

TATATA

תתת

תת

תתתת

תתת

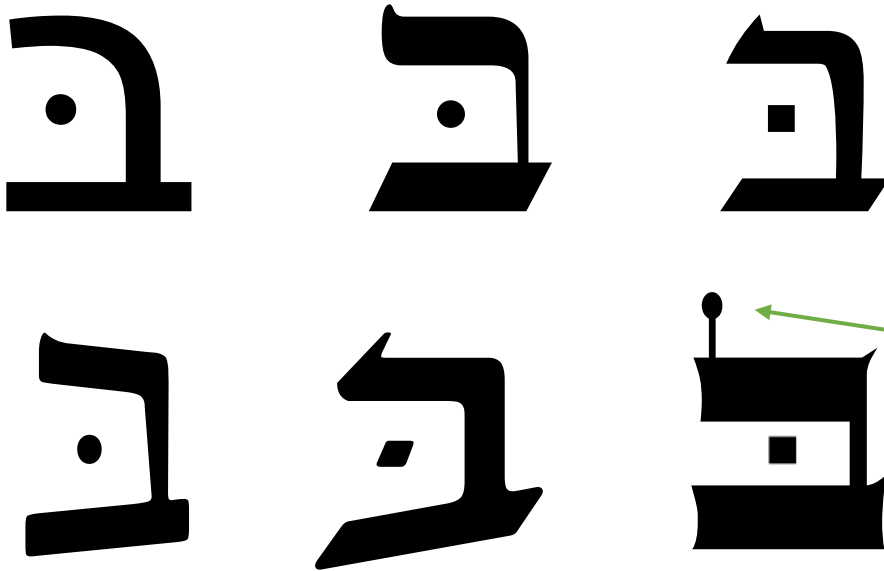
תתת

under

The puzzles and reading pages in your packets sometimes use “fake” words just to give you some practice making the sounds – these are **grey**. Any word that’s all **black** is a real Hebrew word – it’s translated below or next to it!

Meet your second letter, the **Bet**!

Lesson 2: Bet ב

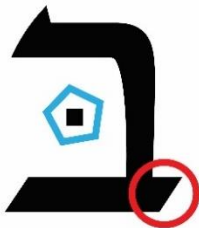


This first font in the second row is the one you would see in the Torah. Torah letters often get decorative “crowns” to make them beautiful and special!

The **Bet** makes the same sound as the English letter

B

Silly Hebrew Trick



Bet has a wide **B**ase
and a **B**elly **B**utton

No matter what font the Bet is in, Bet always has that wide “**b**ase” and a “**b**elly **b**utton,” even if other parts of the letter are slightly different!

Circle the wide “**b**ase” or “**b**tail” of each **B**et above!

Now you can read your first Hebrew word:

בַּת = daughter



When you read that word, what phrase do you think of?

(Hint: What many Jewish girls do when they turn 12 or 13!)

Read the Hebrew out loud:

(You can also hear them on JiTap or the StudyHub on www.JLearnHub.com!)

בַּת בַּת בַּב בַּב תַּת תַּת 1

daughter

בַּת תַּב בַּבַּת בַּ תַּת 2

on/at the daughter

Read the Hebrew on the right, then match each one to the English on the left that sounds the same!

BAT

תַּב

TABAT

בַּבַּת

on/at the daughter

TAB

בַּת

daughter

BATATA

תַּבַּת

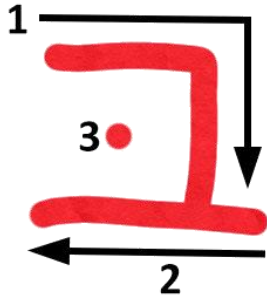
BABAT

בַּתַּת

The puzzles and reading pages in your packets sometimes use “fake” words just to give you some practice making the sounds – these are **grey**. Any word that’s all **black** is a real Hebrew word – it’s translated below or next to it in small type!

Writing Practice

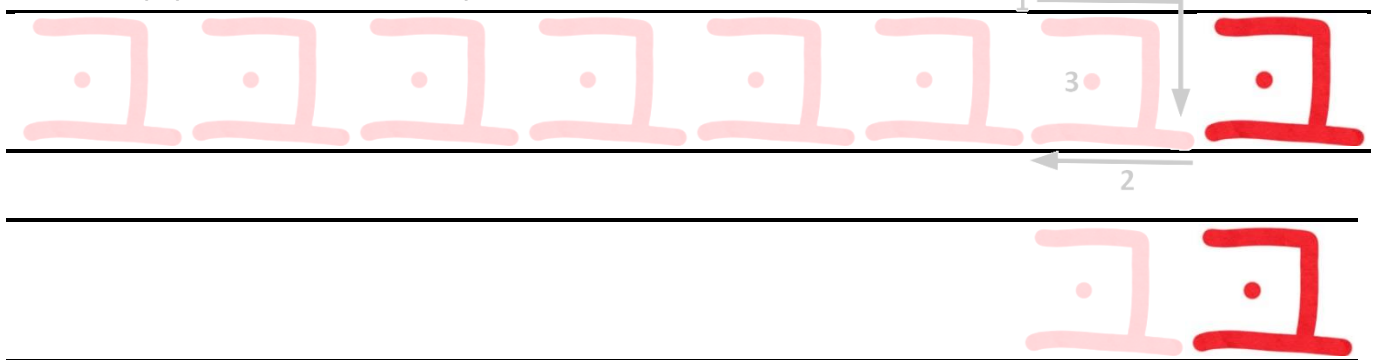
Write the letter Bet with
a right angle, a line,
and a dot:



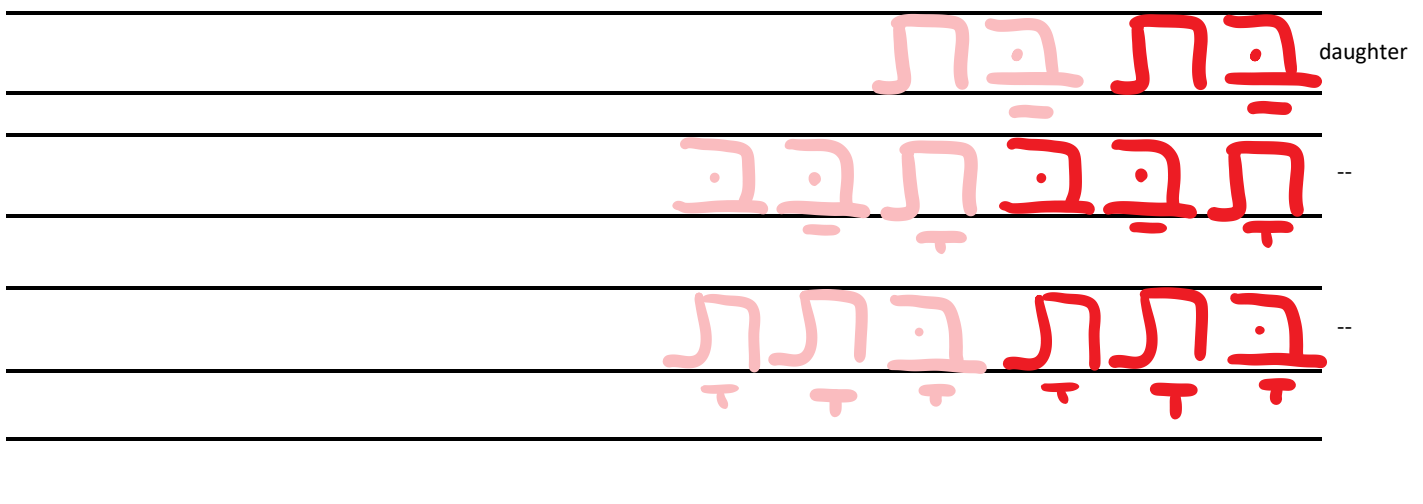
Did You Know..?

Drawing a shape on paper helps the human brain remember that shape more easily. That's why writing Hebrew can actually speed up your reading!

Now you try: trace the letter across the first line, then copy it all the way across the second line on your own!



Copy the words at least **twice** each:



Reading Strategy:

Syllables

Every word has at least one **syllable** in it.

Syllables are the “beats” of the word.

For example, the word “cat” has **one** syllable,
but the word “paper” has **two** syllables:

c a t

p a | p e r

And “ladybug” has **three**:

l a | d y | b u g

You can figure out a word’s syllables by clapping as you say it,
or by placing your hand under your chin: every time you feel
your chin go down as you say the word, that’s a syllable!

How many syllables does each of these English words have?

Draw lines between them.

The first one has been done for you as an example!

- 1 g o l d e n | r o d 3 2 H e b r e w ____
- 3 b a s k e t b a l l ____ 4 J e w i s h ____
- 5 b a n a n a ____ 6 e l e p h a n t ____

Sometimes in English, it can be tricky to figure out where the syllable breaks go:

straw | ber | ry or **straw | be | rry**

Of course, you get the same number of syllables either way – drawing the lines can just be a little confusing sometimes!

**But Hebrew syllables are easier to figure out:
the number of vowels = the number of syllables!**

For example, look at the word **בִּבְתָּ**:



How many syllables does each of these Hebrew words have?

Draw lines between them if there's more than one.

The first has been done for you as an example!

_____	בְּ תָ 2	<u>2</u>	בִּ בְּ תָ 1
_____	תָ תָ 4	_____	תָ בְּ תָ 3
_____	תָ תָ תָ 6	_____	בְּ תָ תָ 5

Drawing lines between syllables can help you figure out long words – keep this strategy in mind anytime you have trouble piecing a word together!

Read Aloud!

Read the Hebrew out loud.

The blue lines separate the syllables for you on the top.
(You can also hear them on JiTap or the StudyHub on www.JLearnHub.com!)

בַּת

בַּת

1

daughter

בַּת

בַּת

2

on/at the daughter

בַּת

בַּת

3

Can you divide the words into syllables on your own?

בַּת

בַּת

בַּת

4

on/at the daughter

daughter

בַּת

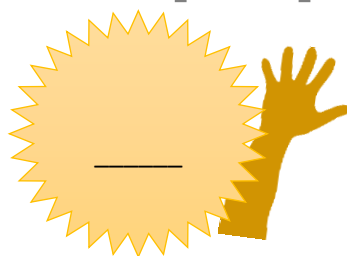
בַּת

בַּת

5



Whenever you see this yellow badge, →
raise your hand and ask a teacher to
hear you read from this page before
moving on!



The next letter you get to meet is the **Shin**:

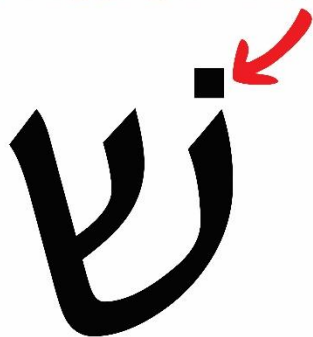


The **Shin** makes the same sound as the English letter combination

SH

This is the font you would see in the Torah. Torah letters often get decorative “crowns” to make them beautiful and special!

Silly Hebrew Trick



SHin’s dot says,
“**SH**e is always **right**!”

No matter what font the Shin is in, Shin always has those three branches and a dot on the **right**, even if other parts of the letter are slightly different!

Circle the **dot** that makes each **Shin** “always **right**”!

Now you can read the name
of the Jewish holiday that
we celebrate the most often:



שַׁבָּת

How often do we celebrate this holiday? _____

Practice reading the Hebrew out loud:

(You can also hear them on JiTap or the StudyHub on www.JLearnHub.com!)

1 שַׁ שַׁבָּ שַׁבָּת שַׁבָּת שַׁבָּת

2 שַׁבָּת שַׁבָּת שַׁבָּת שַׁבָּת שַׁבָּת
weakened put/placed

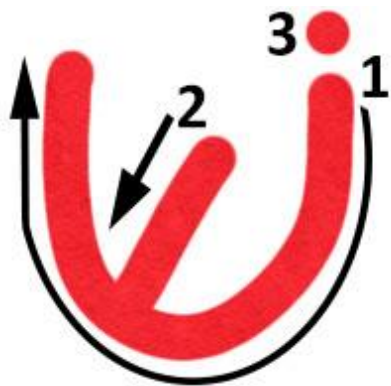
3 שַׁבָּת שַׁבָּת שַׁבָּת שַׁבָּת שַׁבָּת

If a word is **black** but
not translated... you
probably know its
meaning just from
the sound!

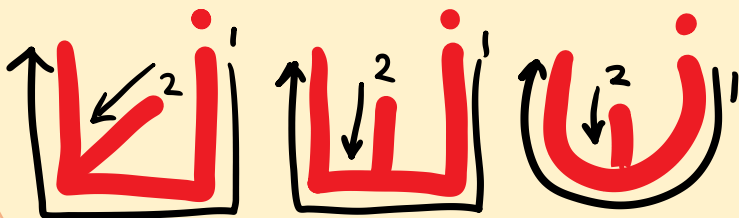
4 שַׁבָּת שַׁבָּת שַׁבָּת שַׁבָּת שַׁבָּת
on/at the daughter

Writing Practice

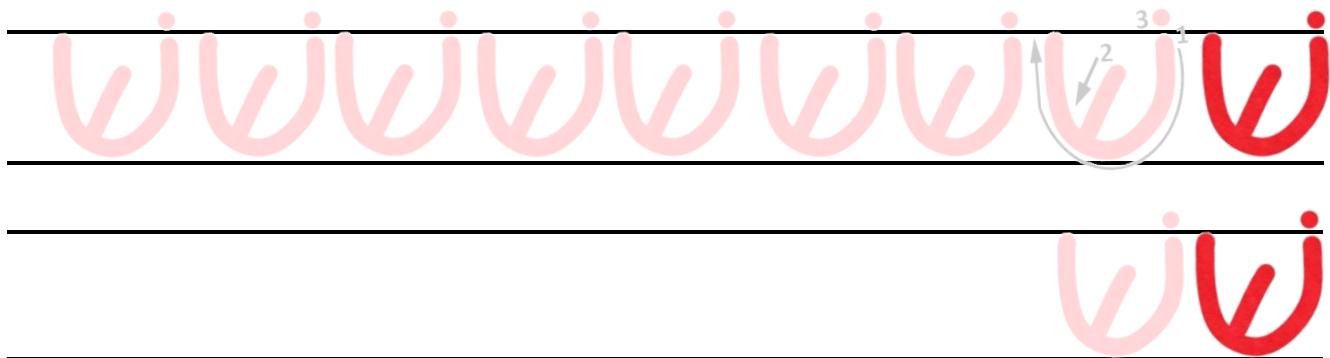
Make the letter Shin with
a U, a line, and a dot:



Handwriting in Hebrew, like in English, can be very personalized: there are often many “right” ways to write a letter. Although the big illustration shows the most common way to write each letter in block Hebrew, here are a few alternatives as well:



Now you try: trace the letter across the first line, then copy it all the way across the second line on your own!



Copy the words at least **twice** each:



Shabbat

Matching

Remember:

ט \ _ \ "A"

always sound like "AH" as in "fAther," never as in apple.

Read the Hebrew on the right out loud, then match each one to the English that sounds like it on the left. One's been done for you!

A	BAT	שֵׁת	1	
B	SHABBAT	שַׁבָּת	2	
C	BASHASH	בַּת	3	daughter
D	SHATA	תַּשׁ	4	
E	BABAT	שֵׁשֶׁב	5	
F	TABASH	בַּתָּת	6	
G	BASHA	בַּשׁ	7	
H	TASHA	שַׁבַּת	8	
I	SHASHABA	בַּבַּת	9	on/at the daughter
J	SHATATA	תַּבַּשׁ	10	
K	SHABABA	שַׁתָּת	11	you flowed
L	BATATA	בַּשֵּׁשׁ	12	

Read Aloud!

Read the Hebrew out loud.

The blue lines separate the syllables for you on the top.
(You can also hear them on JiTap or the StudyHub on www.JLearnHub.com!)

בַּנְשֵׁת | נִשְׁבֵּת 1

בַּבֵּת | תַּנְשֵׁת 2

on/at the daughter

תַּנְשֵׁב | נִשְׁתֵּת 3

Can you divide the words into syllables on your own?

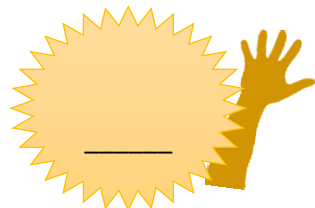
בַּנְשֵׁת | נִשְׁבֵּת | תַּנְשֵׁת 4

בַּבֵּת | נִשְׁתֵּת | תַּנְשֵׁב 5

on/at the daughter



Whenever you see this yellow badge, →
raise **your hand** and ask a teacher to hear you
read from this page before moving on!



Match-A-Rhyme

Read the Hebrew words match the ones that rhyme!

(For instance, בַּת could match to תַּת. One's been done for you!)

put/placed

A	נִשַּׁת	נִשַּׁת	1
B	נִשַּׁשׁ	בִּנְשׁ	2
C	בַּת	בַּת	3
D	תַּב	תַּשׁ	4
E	בִּנְשׁ	נִשַּׁב	5

daughter

A	בִּנְשׁ	בִּנְשׁ	1
B	נִשַּׁב	בַּת	2
C	נִשַּׁשׁ	תַּשׁ	3
D	תַּב	תַּב	4
E	נִשַּׁת	נִשַּׁב	5

If you are having a LOT of trouble figuring out what rhymes, then read the Hebrew out loud for practice and move on!

Now meet your fourth letter, the **Mem**!



The **Mem** makes the same sound as the English letter

M

Silly Hebrew Trick



Mem has a
Man hiking on
a **M**ountain

No matter what font the Mem is in, Mem always has a “man” hiking on a “mountain,” even if other parts of the letter are slightly different!

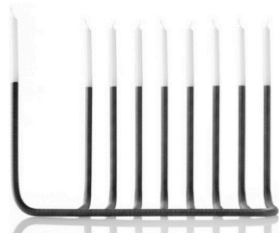
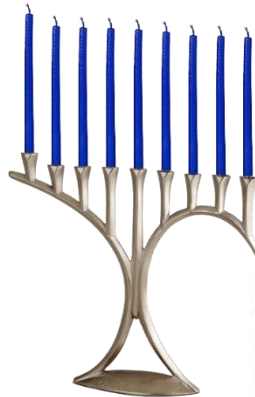
Circle the **M**an on each
Mem’s **M**ountain!

Now you can read the name of the helper candle on the Chanukiah (the menorah we light on the holiday of Chanukah):

שִׁמְשׁ

Traditionally, the שִׁמְשׁ is raised higher up than all the other candles on a Chanukiah, though some modern designs find other ways to set the שִׁמְשׁ candle apart. We use the שִׁמְשׁ to light the other candles, rather than lighting all the candles from a match.

Circle the שִׁמְשׁ in each Chanukiah!
One has been done for you!



Practice reading these lines out loud:

(You can also hear them on JiTap or the StudyHub on www.JLearnHub.com!)

1 מִּמַּתְּ מִמַּתְּ מִמַּתְּ מִמַּתְּ מִמַּתְּ מִמַּתְּ מִמַּתְּ מִמַּתְּ מִמַּתְּ מִמַּתְּ
moved/departed

2 מִמַּתְּ מִמַּתְּ מִמַּתְּ מִמַּתְּ מִמַּתְּ מִמַּתְּ מִמַּתְּ מִמַּתְּ מִמַּתְּ מִמַּתְּ

3 מִמַּתְּ מִמַּתְּ מִמַּתְּ מִמַּתְּ מִמַּתְּ מִמַּתְּ מִמַּתְּ מִמַּתְּ מִמַּתְּ מִמַּתְּ

at the (point of)
departing

very/much

helper candle

Writing Practice

Make the letter Mem with a line, an arc, & another line:



Some people also write Mem like this:



Feel free to use whichever pattern is easiest for you!

Now you try: trace the letter across the first line, then copy it all the way across the second line on your own!



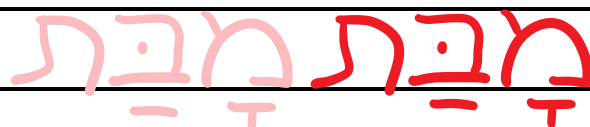
Copy the words at least **twice** each:



helper
candle



very/
much



--



--

Read Aloud!

Read the Hebrew out loud.

The blue lines separate the syllables for you on the top.
(You can also hear them on JiTap or the StudyHub on www.JLearnHub.com!)

מִשְׁתָּה

שִׁמְשֵׁה

1

helper candle

בִּמְתָה

מִבְּתָה

2

stage/theater (of)

מִשְׁמָה

מִתְּתָה

3

much/very

gift

Can you divide the words into syllables on your own?

מִשְׁתָּה שִׁמְשֵׁה מִבְּתָה

4

helper candle

מִתְּתָה מִשְׁמָה בִּמְתָה

5

gift

much/very

stage/theater (of)

Notice that as you learn more letters, you can read more real Hebrew words!
Soon you'll know enough that we won't need any "fake" practice words!

One-Off Matching

Read the Hebrew and match the words that sound the same but have one spelling difference.

BONUS: Circle the difference!

(For instance, **בַּת** would match to **בֶּת** and the vowel would be circled. *One's been done for you as an example!*)

A	מִמֶּשׁ	בֶּמֶת	1
B	בֶּמֶת	שִׁמֶשׁ	2
C	מִבֶּת	מִמֶּשׁ	3
D	שִׁמֶשׁ	מִמֶּת	4
E	מִמֶּת	מִבֶּת	5

helper candle

much/very

A	מִתֶּת	שִׁמֶת	1
B	מִשֶּׁת	מִשֶּׁת	2
C	מִתֶּת	מִשֶּׁת	3
D	שִׁמֶת	מִתֶּת	4
E	מִשֶּׁת	מִתֶּת	5

gift

Reverse It!

Write out the words out in Hebrew letters.
The first one has been done for you as an example!

TAMASH	<u>תַּבְּחַשׁ</u>	1
SHABAT	<u> </u>	2
MABASH	<u> </u>	3
BAMAT	<u> </u>	4
TABAT	<u> </u>	5
SHAMATA	<u> </u>	6
MATATA	<u> </u>	7
BASHATA	<u> </u>	8
TABASHA	<u> </u>	9

Vowels	Letters
 	ב מ ש ת

Name Matching

Match the Hebrew letter to its name!

A Tav

ט 1

B Shin

ב 2

C Mem

ת 3

D Bet

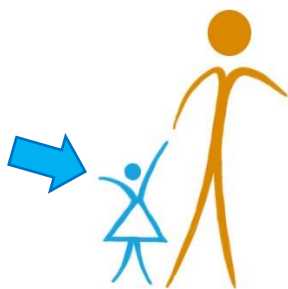
מ 4

**Bonus: Point out the Silly Hebrew Trick
for each letter!**

Vocab Bonus

You've met a few Hebrew words already – write the Hebrew word next to the picture of what it means using the Word Bank at the bottom! (Look back through the packet if you have trouble remembering any of them!)

Page
7



Page
18



Page
13



WORD BANK

שִׁמְשׁ בֵּית שִׁבֹּת

Packet 1 Reading Review

Time yourself to see how long it takes you to read this whole page.

It's okay if you read very slowly the first time!

Read this page to a teacher to earn your Packet 1 Award!

(You can also hear it on JiTap or the StudyHub on www.JLearnHub.com!)

נֶשֶׁבֶת שֶׁמֶשׁ מִבֵּת 1

helper candle

בַּמַּת מְּמֶשׁ מִתֵּת 2

much/very

stage/theater (of)

בַּבֵּת מְּשֵׁת מִמֶּ 3

on/at the daughter

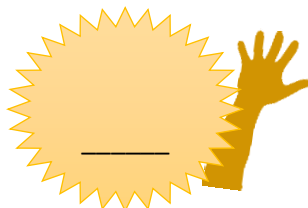
נֶשֶׁמ בְּנֶשֶׁת שֶׁתֵּת 4

בְּנֶשֶׁשׁ שֶׁמֶת שֶׁמֶשׁ 5

helper candle

נֶשֶׁבֶת בִּתֵּת מִתֵּת 6

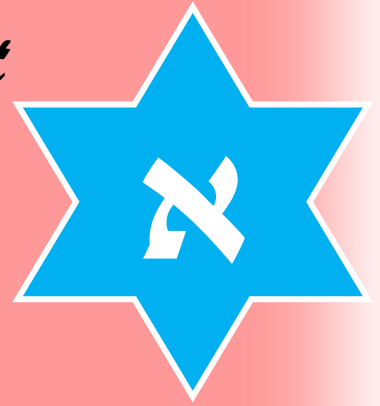
gift



מָזָל טוֹב! Mazal Tov!



This award certifies that



has completed Packet 1

in the Hebrew Step-By-Step program,

now knows four letters:

ב • מ • ש • ת

two vowels:

וּ וַ

...and is ready to learn more in Packet 2!

Teacher Signature: _____



Student Signature: _____

תשע"ט | 5779 | 2018-2019