

Explore THE TEXT

Younger grades
BetterLesson
Teacher Toolkit



SKILLS:

- Improve reading fluency, vocabulary and comprehension.

CONTENT:

- Share main ideas with a partner or teacher.
- Present learning creatively.

VALUES:

- Develop spiritual awareness and curiosity.
- Feel close to G-d through nature and wonder.

BL

BetterLesson™

For Teacher:

Select activities that resonate with you. Each activity is worth 10 coins, or points. You can use actual coins or marbles or points! Set a goal of 30 points over a few lessons.

10 COINS

1. READ

Introduce a set of phrases or **פסוקים**

- Teacher reads text in phrases.
- Teacher reads text again and students repeat after her.
- Students read together without the teacher.

Sample

בראשית ברא אלקים את השמים ואת הארץ. והארץ היתה תהו ובהו והשף על פני תהום ורוח אלקים מרחפת על פני המים. ויאמר אלקים יהי אור ויהי אור



10 COINS

3. WONDER

- Students design a letter including symbols or ideas from the text (see sample).
- Design or draw an icon or shape that teaches a partner something about the story.
- Collate all student letters or shapes and display in **Anchor Chart** or **Word Wall**.

Sample

The letter **ב** from **ברא** or **בראשית**, which has **שמים וארץ** in the letter.

10 COINS

2. NOTICE

In pairs, alone or with the teachers, students will highlight main words, ideas or characters.

Sample

בראשית ברא אלקים את השמים ואת הארץ. והארץ היתה תהו ובהו והשף על פני תהום ורוח אלקים מרחפת על פני המים. ויאמר אלקים יהי אור ויהי אור

I CAN identify 3 words that are new to me and explain why they are important to this story.

I CAN act out or draw these experiences and wonder about G-d's creations.

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- Feel close to G-d through nature and wonder.
- collaboration skills
- learning from one another

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1. READ & RECORD

How to introduce a set of phrases or פטוּקִים.

- Dramatically** record yourself reading a short set of פטוּקִים or phrases. Students listen to it in small groups.
- Students **dramatically** read to one another, noting emphases on fluency indicators.
- Students share: Reading/listening to this part made me feel/think...

10 COINS

Sample

וַיְרֵא אֱלֹהִים אֶת הָאֹר
כִּי טוֹב
וַיַּבְדֵּל אֱלֹהִים בֵּין הָאֹר וּבֵין הַחֹשֶׁךְ.
וַיִּקְרָא אֱלֹהִים לְאֹר יוֹם
וְלַחֹשֶׁךְ קָרָא לַיְלָה
וַיְהִי עֶרֶב וַיְהִי בֹקֶר יוֹם אֶחָד.



2. NOTICE

10 COINS

- Students design or select from designated images, icons or emojis (the teacher can create a 'gallery' of pre-approved images).
- Students stand in sequential order of the text, personifying the elements created.

Sample

וַיְרֵא אֱלֹהִים אֶת הָאֹר
כִּי טוֹב
וַיַּבְדֵּל אֱלֹהִים בֵּין הָאֹר וּבֵין הַחֹשֶׁךְ.
וַיִּקְרָא אֱלֹהִים לְאֹר יוֹם
וְלַחֹשֶׁךְ קָרָא לַיְלָה
וַיְהִי עֶרֶב וַיְהִי בֹקֶר יוֹם אֶחָד.

10 COINS

3. WONDER

- Spark (ask) a question using a highlighted word.
- Discuss your question with your chavruta.
- What do you **notice and wonder** about the text?

3-2-1 strategy:

◇ I wonder how... why...?

I think ___ because.

This part reminds me of...

- Discuss with your chavruta.
- Place one question or wondering on the Question **Parking Lot**.



I CAN explore the Word Wall in the class and share which words best describe Creation.

I CAN appreciate the beauty of the world G-d created and share these feelings with others.

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CREATE YOUR OWN:

READ

Add sample text:

WONDER

NOTICE

BL STRATEGIES:



3-2-1
Activate



I notice,
I wonder



Anchor
Charts



Word Wall



Parking
Lot



Stop and
Jot



Learning Target
Self Assessment

I can: _____

I can: _____



I CAN STATEMENTS

Note to teachers:

Select 'I CAN' statements from each of the skills, content and values section. On which of these statements will your students focus this week? What evidence will students share to demonstrate their progress?

SKILLS - I CAN...

1. Identify 3 words that are new to me.
2. Identify 3 words or phrases that I think are important
3. Explain why they are important.
4. Pronounce some new words correctly.
5. Ask a question about this.

CONTENT: I CAN...

6. Share the main idea(s) with a partner or teacher.
7. Place the main events in order with pictures, my words or with movements.
8. Act out or draw an important scene.
9. Ask a question that sparks my curiosity.
10. Point out on a nature walk or at home something that reminds me of this story and share why.

VALUES: I CAN...

11. Share, describe, draw or act why this is important to me, my family or my community.
12. Wonder with a partner, teacher or community about the creations of G-d and the world of things I do not fully understand.
13. Appreciate nature and the world G-d created and share these feelings with others.

בְּרֵאשִׁית
בְּרֵא
מִים
חַשׁוּךְ
יוֹם

