

THE HEBREW ACADEMY TIMES

HATS OFF TO OUR COMMUNITIES!

April 2024

***A Newspaper FOR THE PEOPLE, BY THE PEOPLE of
Hebrew Academy of Tampa Bay***

We ROAR with LION PRIDE!



Written & Published by:

***Shalom Armam
Yehuda Amram
Moshe Chaim Dubrowski
Esther Friedman
Abby Gondelman
Emet Howitt-Vallone
Leah Batya Konigsberg***

***Maggie Konigsberg
Chana Lipszyc
Daniel Mendelson
Naomi Mendelson
Sholom Rubashkin
Maya Sasser
Dovid Yarmush***

Table of Contents

4th Grade

The Value of Family - Moshe Chaim Dubrowski

Trees - Esther Friedman

Beauties of Antarctica - Leah Batya Konigsberg

Stunning Flowers - Chana Lipszyc

Besties in Space - Maya Sasser

5th Grade

The Fat Rat - Emet Howitt-Vallone

Big Cats - Sholom Rubashkin

Gifted Gravity - Dovid Yarmush

6th Grade

The Power of Kindness - Shalom Amram

Flow Like the River - Abby Gondelman

Better Together - Maggie Konigsberg

Together Forever Like Them - Naomi Mendelson

7th Grade

Fear of Wolves - Yehuda Amram

8th Grade

Ant Teamwork - Daniel Mendelson

Edited by Ms Stacy

The Value of Family

Written By Moshe Chaim

A family of elephants is called a herd.

There are normally 6 to 12 members in an elephant family. Female elephants stay in their herd until they die. Male elephants usually leave between the ages of 7 and 12.

Adults teach young female elephants how to care for their babies.

Babies can form lifelong friendships within their herd. These adults and their babies often move in the same group for their entire life.

Elephants are also known to mourn the death of a loved one. They have even been seen grieving over baby elephants who did not survive the first few months of life. Elephants visit each member of their family's graveyard every year.

Elephants have a very good memory. After nearly four years of separation, an elephant and her mother recognized each other right away. They were seen nuzzling one another with their trunks and flapping their ears.

Elephants remind me of the importance of loving one another. In my opinion, elephants are the most affectionate living creatures on planet Earth. Whenever two elephants meet for the first time in a while they hug their trunks together. When I see my family after a long time, I also greet them warmly. Elephant families have a strong connection and I'm thankful to have the same.



Taking Care of Baby

A baby elephant is called a calf. Calves stay close to their mothers. They drink their mother's milk for at least two years. The calf likes to be touched often by its mother or a relative. This gives the baby comfort.

Growing Up

Baby elephants are three feet tall and weigh 250 pounds when they are born. Calves play. They bump into each other. They chase each other and pull tails. Calves learn by watching and doing what older elephants do.



By: Esther F.

Intro: Today we will learn about the roots of trees which keep trees stable.

Facts: Trees have strong roots to make sure they keep themselves in place and do not tip over. The roots also provide water to the tree from the water in the ground. The roots also provide a way for minerals and nutrients to be absorbed from the soil.

Lesson:

Important Life Lessons I Can Learn from Trees

Trees are good things for Earth. They give us a beautiful look in the streets and give us food to eat. Also, we can learn a lesson from them. The trees have roots that give them water to drink, and we humans have a heart and family that gives us food to eat and water to drink. So when there is a horrible storm (or a fight in human life) stay strong and don't fall down. Be just like the trees are.

Beauties of Antarctica

By Leah Batya Konigsberg

Brrr! Antarctica sure is cold. Can you imagine ever living there? I know I can't because I'm a Floridian. I think Antarctica is a beautiful place because it's so snowy. However, there is even more to learn about Antarctica such as the weather and animals.

The weather in Antarctica is very different from anywhere else in the world. In fact, it is the coldest and windiest continent. It is also the driest. It's so dry it is actually a desert. Because of this weather, humans do not have the capability to live in Antarctica permanently. Antarctica only has two seasons. There is no spring or fall but there is summer and winter. In the winter it has six months of darkness. Then in the summer, it has another six months of daylight with no nighttime. Some plants and animals can live there, but only those animals can survive in this weather.

Most animals in the Antarctic live in water. One of the biggest animals in Antarctica is the fin whale. The fin whale is very big and powerful. Next to a human, it looks huge. Elephant seals are the largest seals in Antarctica. Penguins are seabirds but they cannot fly. The penguins can also live in Antarctica because they have such thick fur.

The lesson I learned from this is that even when life seems to be pitch black I will remember that the light days are coming. Sad times are sour like lemons. But we can take those lemons and make lemonade.

Stunning Flowers

By Chana Lipszyc



It takes 3-4 years to grow a rose.

Intro: What did the rose say to the bee? You really pollen my leg! In this article, you are going to learn about flowers. I want you to close your eyes and think about flowers for five seconds. What did you think about? Did you think about stunning, fabulous and beautiful pedals? If you did, you are absolutely right! Flowers are just so beautiful!

Facts: According to Proflower.com "Flower colors of red, pink, blue and purple come mainly from the pigments called anthocyanins, which are in the class of chemicals called flavanoids (which is what gives plants their color)." Flowers get their scent from oils that are produced by the petals. These colors and scents make flowers gorgeous and make you want to be around them. We even bring them into your home because they give us joy.

Lesson: Flowers show off beauty on the outside, but do they have beauty on the inside? If a person has a beautiful appearance, but is a show-off or a bully we know they are beautiful only on the outside. I will try to be nice-looking by keeping my appearance tidy. Also, I will try to keep my traits helpful and positive. Flowers show beauty on the inside and out. We should be beautiful on both inside and outside as well.

TILL NEXT TIME BYE BYE

Besties in Space

Art and Article by Maya Sasser

Let's fly into... Outer Space and explore our solar system. How do the sun and moon work together?

What can I learn from the teamwork of the sun and moon?

STARS

Do you know what stars are made of? Well, in a second you will know the stars are giant balls of hot gas mainly containing hydrogen and a small amount of helium. Did you know stars are 50,000 Kelvins (a measurement of temperature)? That is steaming hot! At least that's what I think, and it is what the scientists say.

SUN

What is the sun? The sun is a gigantic star! In fact, the sun is the closest star to Earth. Since the sun is a huge star, is it as hot as the other stars? The answer is that we really don't know. However, I think a star's temperature depends on the star's size. Since our sun is the closest star to us it provides Earth with the heat and light energy we need to survive. How hot is the sun? The sun in Celsius is 5,600, but if measured using Fahrenheit the answer is 10,000. Without the sun, our life on Earth wouldn't be as beautiful as it is right now it would be black.



MOON

Why does the moon change shape in the sky? When the moon is a small sliver are the other parts gone? The answer to both of those questions is that the moon doesn't just disappear. The sun's light is reflecting off specific parts of the moon making it possible to be seen on Earth. Did you know that when the moon is full it is a new month?

THE LESSON

A lesson I can learn from the stars, our sun and the moon is that the solar system works together just like Hashem created it. I can think of it as the sun giving the moon a rest and the moon giving the sun a rest each day. They both seem to be shining down upon us but at different times of the day. I should also work with others to share the load. That's what teamwork is all about. Here is an example: They work together to make our world brighter so we should act like the stars trying to make this life on earth a nicer and brighter place.

Capybaras (The Fat Rat)

By Emet Howitt Vallone

Capybaras are the largest rodents in the world. They have different colored fur, but the typical color is brown. In the wild, the capybara can be found in Central America and South America.



Capybaras are good swimmers and are semiaquatic animals, meaning they live by the water. They often enter the water to escape predators such as Jaguars and anacondas. They are herbivores (plant eaters), Their diet consists of fresh grass, water, plants, grains, and melons and the capybara eats even more plant foods.

Similar to other wild animals, the capybara is an exotic pet. You can only own a capybara in certain states such as Florida, Oklahoma, and North Dakota. To have a capybara as a pet an exotic pet license is needed from the local or state wildlife agency. Studies show that capybaras can live in harmony with most animals. Not much bothers them unless they feel they are in danger. These pets are very easy to feed because they eat plants. They don't take up any of your food and you can just take them outside and feed them some leaves, or you can feed them some of your fruit.

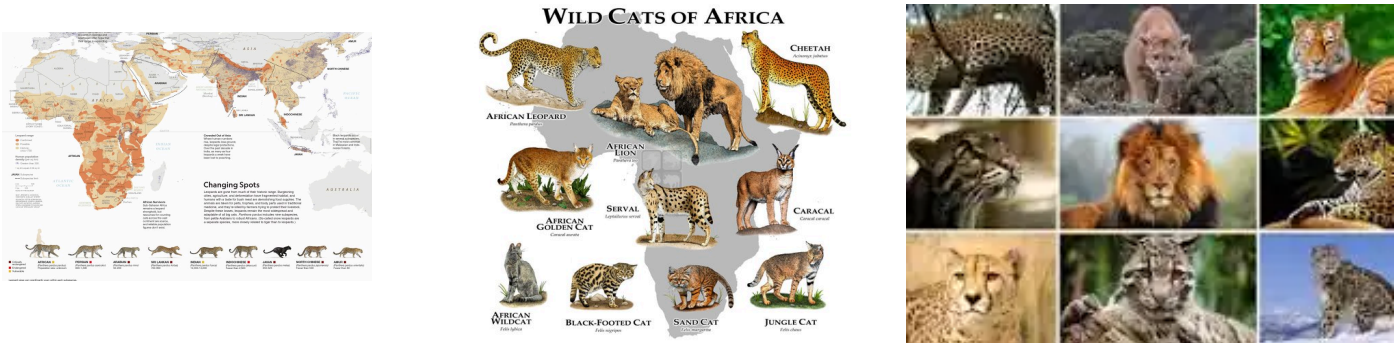
These friendly animals can teach me a lesson, just like them I should be kind to others. Capybaras are very social animals and can be seen getting along with most animals. We should learn to be agreeable with everyone and not argue but be friendly to each other. And you might make more friends and have a happier life.

Big Cats

By Sholom Rubashkin

Did you know? Only four of the many big cats can roar.

Lions, tigers, leopards, and jaguars are called big cats. Big cats are known for their size and strength.



A pride of lions work together to catch their prey. A pride usually has around 15 or more lions. The male lions leave their pride after two years, but some get kicked out before then. The females work together to hunt and take care of the pride. Usually, the grandmother, the mother, and the sister (if there is one) give birth around the same time.

Tigers are the biggest of all the big cats. They can be from 2.5-11 feet long and weigh between 42-930 pounds. Sometimes tigers work together and share their catch.

How do the big cats catch their prey? First, the big cat will camouflage themselves and pounce on their prey as soon as it walks by. Big cats are carnivores which means they can hunt and eat meat.

Passuk from the Torah:

The Lion is the symbol of the tribe of Judah, the lineage of King David. In Genesis 49:9, Jacob blessed his son Judah.

Lesson:

What can we learn from big cats? Big cats usually work together. We should also protect our ground like a pride of lions would. We should learn from them and work together to be successful.

Gifty Gravity

By Dovid Yarmush

What is gravity? What can we learn from gravity? Make sure you stay to the end to learn all about it.

Gravity is a force that pulls all people and objects with mass towards the center of the earth. Mass is a large body of matter with no definite shape or size. Almost every single object in the world has mass. When you are holding an object two forces are going in two opposite directions even though you don't feel it. Gravity is pulling the object down while your hand is pushing up. The ocean's waves are caused by gravity. Without gravity, I don't know what would happen to Earth's water.

Have you ever thought of an egg (or any other object) dropped from a high place? Do you know how that egg falls? It's because of gravity. The egg would just float up without gravity. Have you ever wondered why you come right back down when you jump? That's because of gravity! When you jump your physical force pushes you in the air, but then the force of gravity is more powerful than your legs and you get pulled down.

Did you know airplane wings are designed to "fight" against gravity and continue in flight? Before airplanes were designed to withstand gravity, some planes crashed because gravity was pulling them down. The blades of helicopters spin quickly and the airflow across the bottom of the blade produces lift to counteract gravity.



Obviously, a helicopter does not manipulate gravity, but by exerting just enough lift to counteract gravity, the helicopter can hover at a fixed altitude.

What can we learn from gravity?

We can learn to be humble by thinking about gravity. How does humbleness have anything to do with gravity? When gravity pulls something down it resembles humbleness. Without gravity it resembles arrogance. He is floating up, he is on top of the world.

I hope you enjoyed learning about gravity and the cool facts connected to it. We have to thank Hashem for the wonderful gift of gravity.

The Power of Kindness

By: Shalom Amram

The tallest animals in the world live in the woodlands of Africa. They have such good vision, they can see one mile away. This animal is the giraffe. And giraffes are very powerful!

Giraffe necks are 7 feet tall in length. They use their powerful necks to protect the calves. Scientists say they have two ideas about why the necks are so long. The first is because they use it to fight off predators. If a giraffe hits another animal with its 1500 pounds neck it would cause a lot of damage. The second reason is that giraffes use them to compete for food. Giraffes can't get low food because their necks can't bend that low. They don't want to eat it because they prefer food from 7 to 14 feet.



When I grow up I want to be a police officer like my grandpa was in four different police forces in Venezuela. Having the power of being Chief of Police might make some mean or evil. Hopefully, if I become the Chief of Police with power, I will remember the lessons I learned from giraffes. They are very powerful animals but are still kind, patient and friendly.

Flow Like the River

By Avigayil Gondelman



Did you know that only 64 of Earth's 177 longest rivers remain free-flowing? Many of them have been disrupted by dams, trash pollution, testing, and erosion. "Rivers are the arteries of our planet. They contain only 0.003 percent of the water on Earth but sustain much of her life. Yet rivers are also under threat." says Peter Bosshard

Rivers are some of the most distinct ecosystems on the planet. Rivers and lakes carry more fish breeds than the sea, even though rivers hold 600 times less water. Dams have fractured two-thirds of the world's greatest rivers. They store about 7,000 cubic kilometers which is one-sixth of the water flowing in rivers. Rivers can unite nations like the Panama Canal. People use rivers to trade, travel and communicate. Rivers have created our most fertile agricultural lands by depositing nutritious silt on floodplains and deltas.*

In the end, I can learn a lesson from rivers and apply it to my personal life. Rivers teach me an important skill needed in my life. Just like rivers, people struggle. People also find peace and calmness within the river of life. Unfortunately, just like rivers, I go through rapids at times. Also in life, we need to band together. Like humans, when rivers join together they are stronger. As I have realized I must go with the flow or I might not get to learn the lessons that need to be taught to me.

* Credited to the source Earth Island Journal Article by Peter Bosshard

Better Together

By Margaret (Maggie) Konigsberg



Some sharks live alone in solitude. However, some like to be around others and work as a group, which is called a school. Other names of groups of sharks are gam, herd, frenzy, or shiver. Marine biologists aren't sure why this occurs because sharks don't really need protection from predators. This proves that they truly like being around one another. I think they are *Better Together*.

Some hammerhead sharks are known to gam, but not all of them do. An example of one that does is the scalloped hammerhead. The range of hammerheads in a school is normally about 10-20, but it can be up to 700. They are not the only sharks that are known to swim in schools. Whitetip Reef Sharks are known to hang around in groups. These groups have a minimum of 15 individuals.

A lot of fish school. Some examples of fish that travel in a gam are tetras, barbs, danios, rasboras and rainbow fish, as well as certain types of loaches and Corydoras catfish. Many species don't go it alone. Instead, they group together in schools that can range from a dozen individuals to millions. A comfortable group for fish has to have at least 4-6. What do you think? Do you think fish are better in a gam? Why or why not?

A lesson you can learn from this is that people are *Better Together*. Our interactions with one another can create something greater than ourselves. We can come together to share ideas and listen to each other's thoughts. We are creating strength in ourselves through different thoughts and experiences.

Fun Fact: A shark is a fish but a fish is not a shark.

Together Forever Like Them

By Naomi M



Animals such as ants, lions and elephants show a lot of teamwork. This is also true of wildebeest. We can learn an important lesson about teamwork from these amazing animals.

Interestingly wildebeests are naturally color-blind and so are their predators. They have a menacing appearance with a large

head shaggy mane, pointed beard and sharp curved horns. Wildebeest don't live as long as most humans; they only live an average of around 20 years. A wildebeest can live five days without water. Wildebeests are also called gnus because their calls sound like gnu, gnu. Most wildebeest spend about 4.5 hours of sleep each day. This provides enough sleep to allow them to have the energy to be able to run 50 mph! The most impressive part is the partnership used to survive.

At night the wildebeest sleep in rows on the ground. This helps them be safe as a group while providing space to run away in the case of an emergency. Living in a herd also means that part of the group can watch over the others. Taking turns to do this means that all of them are safe and get enough sleep.

Hundreds of thousands of wildebeest migrate each year. The migration is in a circular pattern and follows the rain. To do this they need to cross the Mara River which has over 3000 crocodiles in the water. Many wildebeest would not survive the crossing without their teamwork.

I can add teamwork to my personal life. It can benefit me when I work with people. It can make the things I am working on go quicker. Wildebeests show a lot of teamwork so I can too!

Fear of Wolves

By Yehuda Amram

Have you ever learned about the enemies and biggest fears of wolves? Humans have thoroughly persecuted wolves and some are almost extinct. Now we are their biggest fear. Other than humans they also have natural enemies as well.

What is the wolf's biggest enemy?

Black, Grizzly, Brown and Kodiak bears are known as one of the wolf's top enemies. Mountain lions, also known as Puma, Catamount, or Cougar, have attacked wolf packs. The Red Fox has also been seen fighting wolves.

What is the wolf's biggest fear?

It's a fact that wolves are very afraid of humans. I think they are fearful because humans have hunted them for so long. Humans have also caused them to be aggressive towards us because we were hurting them. This is why they have to be so sneaky and teach the young to hide from humans.

Lesson - Fear

Like wolves have fear, humans also do, but I like the strategy wolves use.

Sometimes they face their fear and sometimes they hide. I think it's best to face my problems sometimes so the situation does not grow bigger.

If the situation is already a big deal or life-threatening, I might hide because I could get badly hurt. Exactly how the wolves get hunted by humans they hide so they don't die, but when it's their biggest enemies then they fight back because they are protecting themselves.



Ant Teamwork

By Daniel Mendelson



**Teamwork divides the task
&
Multiplies the success**



When ants work together they accomplish amazing feats! For example: digging huge nests, using their bodies to form rafts, building body bridges for ant traffic to walk across, and sewing leaves together, are just a few examples of their teamwork.

Digging huge nests: When fire ants work together to build a nest it might take less than 3 days. And they can't even speak! Imagine building a house without talking. Tunnels and chambers are all built so the ants don't have to go into the dangerous world. Due to humans and floods that destroy their nest, ants end up building a nest about once a year.

Building an ant body raft: As water trickles into the ants' nest in a flood all the ants work together to evacuate all the ant eggs. Instead of putting them on top, where it's dry, the ants put them on the bottom. This is because tiny hairs on these eggs trap little air bubbles turning the eggs into ant flotation devices. The worker ants grab their legs and hold on to the eggs tightly. The team lets the current take them. The ants don't care; they can build a new nest wherever they land.

A lesson we can take from ants: Ants can teach us many lessons but the main lesson is that ants use teamwork. Without this trait, ants probably would have gone extinct many years ago. I think that humans use teamwork but not as much as ants do. Can you imagine how powerful we could be if we used it as much as ants do? So next time you have a chance to use teamwork, take that opportunity right away and if ants can use it, you can too.