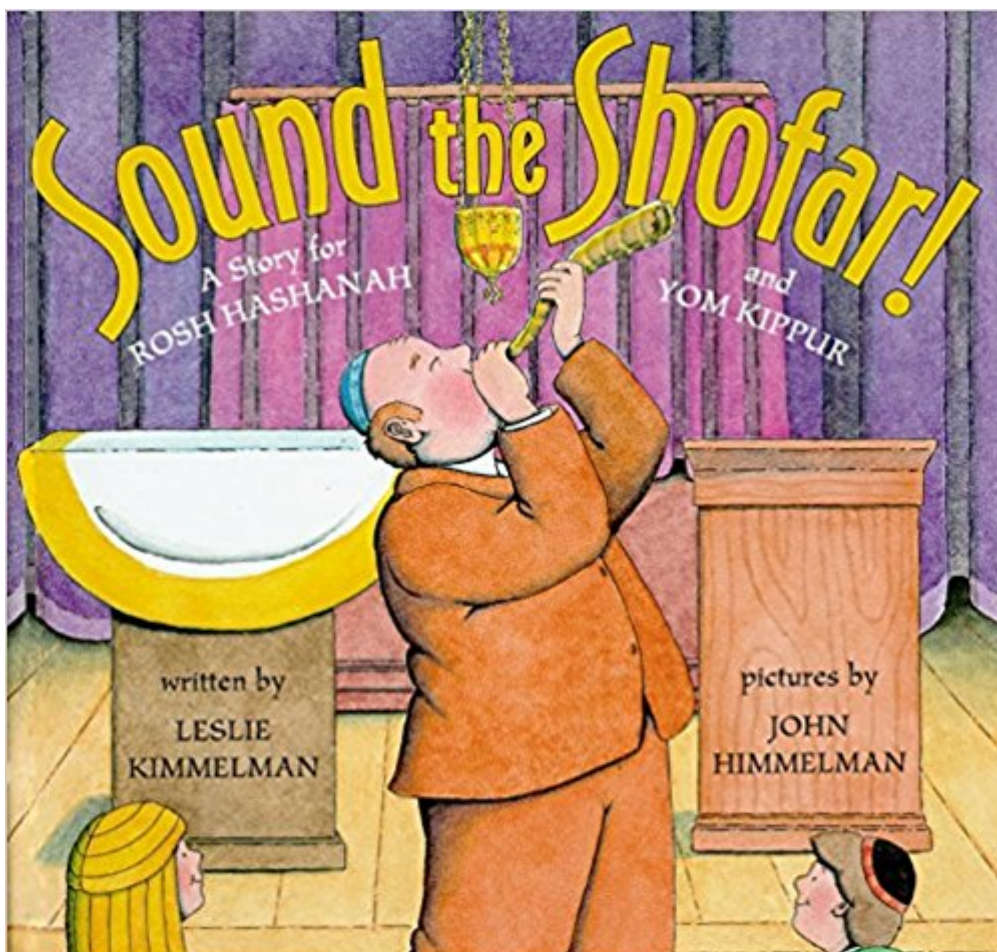


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Sound The Shofar!: A Story For Rosh Hashanah And Yom Kippur



Synopsis

It's Rosh Hashanah, and the loving family of Hanukkah Lights, Hanukkah Nights and Hooray! It's Passover gets ready once again for another holiday. After a special dinner, the family goes to synagogue to hear Uncle Jake sound the shofar and bring in the New Year. Ten days later, it's Yom Kippur, the Day of Atonement. With simple text and glowing illustrations, this story captures the rituals and importance of the ten special days called the Days of Awe or the High Holy Days that Jewish people all around the world celebrate.

Book Information

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Age Range: 3 - 6 years

Grade Level: Preschool - 1

Customer Reviews

The creators of Hanukkah Lights, Hanukkah Nights, hit a high note with this picture book about the traditions surrounding the Jewish High Holy Days, or Days of Awe. The house is abuzz with excitement as the relatives gather to celebrate Rosh Hashanah, the Jewish New Year, and then 10 days later, Yom Kippur, the Day of Atonement. In this time of prayers, good food and good times, Uncle Jake plays a special role: he will blow the shofar, or ram's horn, during the service at the synagogue. Kimmelman includes a wealth of information about the tastes (challah and apples with honey), sights (the stained glass synagogue windows) and sounds (the shofar, the cantor and the rabbi) of the holiday season in her energetic text, making it highly accessible to very young children. Himmelman's cozy, lighthearted paintings feature an extended family including a spunky litter of

orange tabby cats?enjoying themselves and reaffirming their Jewish faith. Ages 3-6. Copyright 1998 Reed Business Information, Inc.

PreSchool-Grade 2-Readers join in as a family celebrates Rosh Hashanah (the Jewish New Year) and, 10 days later, Yom Kippur (the Day of Atonement). Uncle Jake punctuates the holidays as he blows the shofar (ram's horn). In addition to the traditional observances, the family also partakes in the fairly recent custom of taking canned food for those less fortunate to the synagogue when they go for Yom Kippur prayers. The lighthearted illustrations show the joy of this season as the extended family gathers together; even the cats are included in the festivities. There is a woman cantor at the synagogue and most of the men do not wear prayer shawls, indicating that the family members are Reform Jews. A note at the end explains details about these holidays not covered in the text. A useful addition for libraries that serve Jewish populations.Yapha Nussbaum Mason, Brentwood Lower School, Los AngelesCopyright 1999 Reed Business Information, Inc.

As a middle school social studies teacher who teaches world cultures, I wanted to expose my students to the High Holy Days, I was seeking a colorful, fun and informative introduction to this most important time in the Jewish year. My mostly Christian students knew nothing of Rosh Hashanah or Yom Kippur which led me to choose a book that was very simple and straight forward. When I discovered Sound the Shofar, I knew that it was perfect.The story centers on one family's celebration of the High Holy Days and focuses on the reasons behind some of the more allegorical traditions (such as blowing the shofar, dipping apples in honey...)My students did gain a basic understanding, but the book, in my opinion, is really meant for a much younger audience (perhaps kindergarten - second grade) although children through 10 will most likely enjoy it.

This book arrived on time and while slightly advanced for my two year old granddaughter, it was a great addition to our library. I'm glad I selected it for her. I had seen it in our local library, took it out and we liked it so much I decided to buy it.

It's Rosh Hashana. Uncle Jake is practicing the Shofar. All the relatives come for dinner. There are candles, wine, apples, honey, and a round challah. Even the cats lick up some honey for a sweet new year. At the synagogue the rabbi and cantor, a man and a woman (which is which? hehe), lead the congregation and a portly Uncle Jake sounds the Shafar. For Yom Kippur, there is a collection of canned goods for a food bank tzedakah contribution, and a chance to change our ways. Finally,

it's evening, and Uncle Jake sounds the neillah Shofar

This book is very focused on the Jewish High Holy Days. It starts with the start of Rosh Hashanah and ends on right at the close of Yom Kippur. While many may feel that the Day of Atonement may not make for a good story, this book does a very nice job of it. It touches on the home and the synagogue. The children experience the joys of the holidays while also reflecting on the more serious aspects (they are sorry for the bad things they have done in the previous year and promise to do better in the coming year). All of this is wrapped around the Uncle who has been practicing blowing the Shofar as he will have the honor for the holidays. A very nice and simple story that does a pretty good job of showing and explaining the High Holy Days.

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