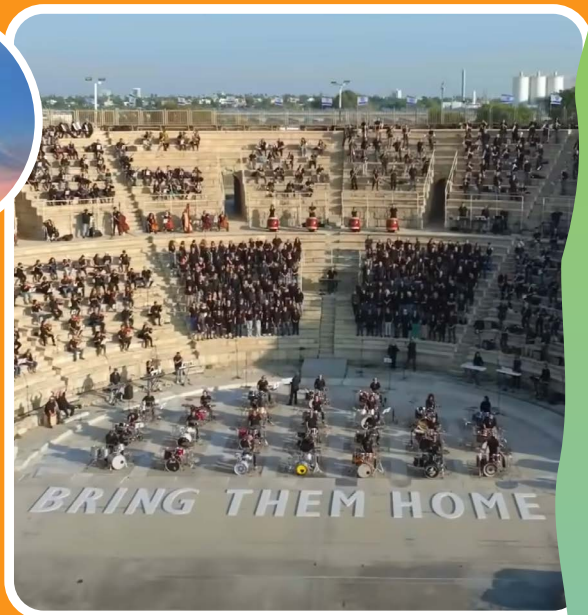


## Hebrew Phrase:

**Chazakim beyachad / חזקים ביחד**  
**Together, we are strong!**

The strength of the people is Israel is incredible. Israeli artists, through their distinction expressions, depict the challenges encountered during national and communal crises. They embody the spirit of the people, illustrating a yearning for better days, hoping for future peace in Israel.



Listen to Homeland Concert - a performance from 1,000 Israeli musicians, calling to bring home our families.

[Link to music](#)

## Look at the images below

- Do you notice any recurring symbols?
- What images do you like? Why?
- How do artists use colours and words?
- What feelings do you feel when you see them?



## Did You Know



Poppy Anemone

- March is the start of the flower season in Israel. The country is home to over 8,000 species of flowers, and they start blooming in early spring. The national flower of Israel is the poppy anemone.
- The Jerusalem marathon takes place in the month of March.
- Purim - a very exciting Jewish holiday, is considered one of the happiest and most observed in the country. Celebrate like a local and join in on lively dances, costumes, and sweets.
- April's mild temperatures means that more events are taking place outdoors and combined with the holiday of Passover - during which kids are out of school - this month is one of the best times to visit and experience Israel to the fullest.



# Jewish Holidays:

The Talmud (ancient teachings about the Torah) tells us, "When the month of Adar arrives, we increase in joy" to welcome a season of miracles.

## Purim: 14th day of Adar (March 23-24, 2024)

Purim is a Jewish holiday that celebrates the bravery of Queen Esther, the secretly Jewish wife of King Achashverosh of Persia. The story is recounted in the book of Esther and read in a special scroll called the Megillah.

Purim is often described as the Jewish springtime version of Halloween. Though Purim is much older than Halloween - the celebration dates to at least the first century BCE.

In the Diaspora, Purim celebrations take place in synagogues and Jewish Schools. In Israel, however, they last all day and spill out into the street with costume parades in the major cities.



## Blue's Favourite Activities

Dress up your Purim table  
[Link to Activity](#)



Spin Drum Craft  
[Link to Activity](#)



Purim paper plate mask  
[Link to Activity](#)



Why social action on Purim?  
[Link to Activity](#)



## Blue's Purim Playlist

- [Purim Kids Songs Medley Kindy Children's Music](#)
- [The 4 Mitzvos of Purim Song](#)
- [An Encanto Purim - The Maccabeats \(We Don't Talk About Haman\)](#)

## Blue's Recipes!

[Vegetarian Tahchin Persian Rice](#)



[Click here for recipe](#)

[Chocolate and Sprinkles-dipped Hamantaschen](#)



[Click here for recipe](#)

[Chickpea Orzo Soup](#)



[Click here for recipe](#)

## Blue's Favourite Books for Purim

- [1. The Sneaky Tricky Hamantash: A Purim Story](#) by Rachel Mintz
- [2. The Kindness Queen: A Girl Discovers the Power of Kindness](#) by Dr. Lakeah Dickerson
- [3. The Royal Recipe: A Purim Story](#) by Elena Rubinstein



# Passover:

The 14th day of Nissan (April 23-30, 2024)

Passover offers us the opportunity to learn in multiple ways and to think about some important Jewish values. The ideas of moving from slavery to freedom, welcoming the stranger because we were once strangers ourselves, and thinking about ways to pass on the story of our past to new generations - all are inherent in the celebration of this festival.

How do we pass on these important messages? Our Talmudic rabbis gave us a roadmap for how to best do it - the Passover Seder. We use the Haggadah (a special book) telling the story of the Israelites' Exodus from Egypt, and is filled with blessings, rituals and songs.



## Blue's Favourite Activities

Make a Matzah House

[Link to Activity](#)



Create a Colourful Cup for Elijah

[Link to Activity](#)



Bedikat Chametz:  
A Pre-Passover Family Fun Search

[Link to Activity](#)



Enjoy JNF Families Passover Activity Book from last year!

[Link to Activity](#)



## Blue's Recipes!



Vegetarian Shawarma



[Click here for recipe](#)

Matzah Tiramisu



[Click here for recipe](#)

Mini Potato Kugels



[Click here for recipe](#)

## Blue's Passover Playlist

- Six13 - A Lion King Passover
- The Maccabees/Justin Bieber Let My People Go Mashup
- Passover Medley Pesach Songs

## Blue's Favourite Books for Passover

1. **Passover is Coming**  
by Tracy Newman
2. **Meet the Matzah: Passover Story**  
by Alan Silberberg
3. **Wishing on Matzo Ball Soup**  
by Lisa Greenwald
3. **A Different Kind of Passover**  
by Linda Leopoldo-Stauss

