

מסכת
סוֹפָה
 דף ו

DAF YOMI4 Kids

Inside the Daf



הִלְכָה לְמֹשֶׁה מִסִּינַי
An Oral Law taught to Moses at Mount Sinai

Laws that have been transmitted generation to generation dating back to

מֹשֶׁה רַבֵּינוּ (Moses, our teacher) who heard them directly from Hashem. These laws were not written down until the Talmud was compiled.

Some examples are: that תְּפִלִּין (phylacteries) should be black and square.

A מְדוּת Moment

The boys were playing basketball, as usual, at recess.

"Look," said Ami, "there comes Chizkiya. I don't want to let him play."

"Why not?" asked Shmuel.

"He hurt my arm last time we let him in a game. And it was on purpose, too. He also tripped me in the hall that same day."

"But he said he was sorry for doing that and he hasn't done it again since!" Shmuel noted.

"I don't care," said Ami. "He's not playing with us."

"Ami," said Chizkiya, "A סוֹפָה must have at least two full walls and one partial wall. The full walls

When one enters into a מְקוּהָ (ritual bath) he or she must make sure there is nothing between the person's body and the מְקוּהָ water. This is learned from the Torah which says, "וְרָחַץ אֶת בְּשָׂרוֹ בַּמַּיִם", "and he shall wash his flesh in the water," (ויקרא יד, ט) meaning his flesh must directly touch the water.

An object that doesn't allow the מְקוּהָ water to directly touch the body is called a "חֲצִיצָה" (barrier). For example, if someone put a piece of tape on his skin, that would be a חֲצִיצָה.

The Torah says that only the flesh must touch the water directly. This suggests that the person's hair does not have to directly touch the water. A הִלְכָה לְמֹשֶׁה מִסִּינַי, an Oral Law taught to Moses at Sinai (see side article) tells us that there can be no barrier even between one's hair and the מְקוּהָ water.

רַבֵּה בַר בַּר חֲנָה therefore warns against entering the מְקוּהָ with a knot in your hair. The tightness of the knot keeps the water from reaching all parts of the hair. Having three hairs tied together isn't a problem since three hairs cannot be tied so tightly that no water can get in.

are like the upper and lower parts of the arm and the partial wall is like the hand. This is like Hashem's 'right arm' which is always ready to accept people back. We should do the same."

Ami reluctantly agreed. Later, he was happy he did. They had a great time and Chizkiya didn't hurt him one bit. He was actually kind of fun to play with after all. And just to think, thought

Ami, if I didn't let him play with us, we would have all lost out!
 (שם משמואל בשם האריז"ל, סוכות תרע"ח)

Walled In



סוכה ש' רבי שמעון



סוכה חכמים (Sages)

רבי שמעון and the חכמים (Sages) debate the number of walls a סוכה requires:

The Sages say a סוכה must have *at least* two full walls and a third wall which is one טפח (about 3.5 in or 9 cm) wide. The idea that such a short wall counts for the purposes of a סוכה is a הלכה למשה מסיני (see sidebar on p.17 for a definition of these words).

רבי שמעון says a סוכה must have at least three full walls and one wall the width of a טפח. Why must a סוכה have so many walls? רב מתנה explains because a פסוק (verse) in the book of Isaiah describes a סוכה as, "וְסֹכֶה תִּהְיֶה... וּלְמַחְסֶה וּלְמַסְתוֹר מִזֶּרֶם וּמִמָּטָר", "And a סוכה shall be... as a protection and refuge from storm and from rain" (ישעיהו ד, ו, Isaiah 4,6). A סוכה with less than four walls cannot be a "refuge from rain" as the wind will carry the rain through the open side.

WORD OF THE DAY:

נִינְהוּ
 "THEY ARE"

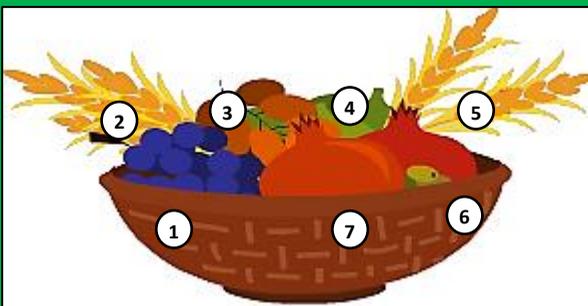


Did You Know...

There are seven special fruits of the Land of Israel (wheat, barley, grapes, figs, pomegranates, olives and dates). The sizes of each fruit are different and are used for measurements in different areas of Jewish law.

Games

Can you identify the 7 special fruits of the Land of Israel?



Review Questions – סוכה דף ו'

1. What is a חציצה?

2. How many walls must a סוכה have according to the Sages?

3. What are used for measurements in different areas of Jewish law?
