

THE HOLIDAY EDITION  
For Grades K-2



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# THE DIALOGUE

A WEEKLY MAGAZINE FOR THE CHABAD HEBREW SCHOOL COMMUNITY

## IT'S SHAVUOT!

**I**t was nearly 3,330 years ago, on the 6th day of the month of Sivan. The Jewish people were standing at the foot of Mt. Sinai. Seven weeks earlier, we had finally left the awful slavery in Egypt. Amidst great miracles, G-d had brought us to freedom. Now, we are ready to become the Jewish People. G-d was going to give us the Torah.

Thunder and lightning rent the air, and the sound of the shofar was heard growing strangely louder and louder. All the people trembled.

Then all was quiet again. The air was very still. Not a sound was to be heard. No bird twittered, no donkey brayed, no ox lowed. Every living thing held its breath. Even the angels interrupted their heavenly praises. Everybody and everything kept silent . . . waiting.

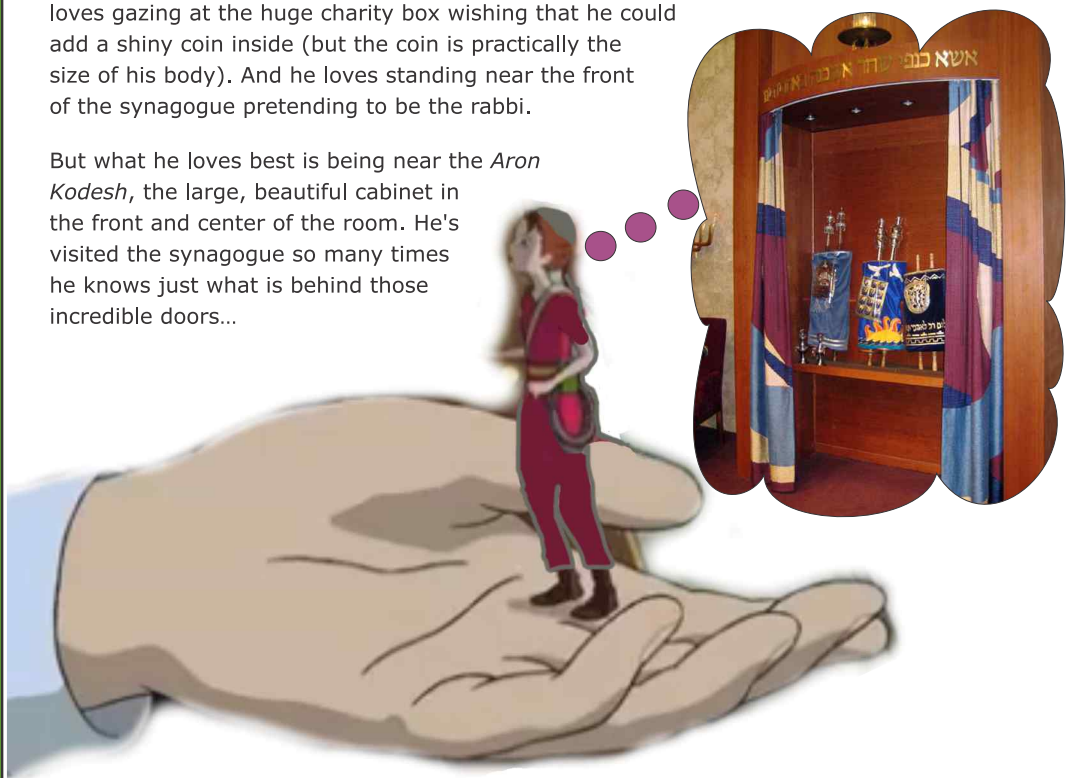
Suddenly G-d's mighty words were heard from one corner of the earth to the other: "I AM G-D, YOUR G-D!" One after another, G-d proclaimed the Ten Commandments.

Shavuot is that day!

**C**an you see Little K'tonton? Look, he's right over there! See him? He's hard to find because he's teeny tiny. Really teeny tiny. Little K'tonton is only about the size of your thumb. But it's just his size that makes him different. Otherwise, he's pretty much like any other kid.

Little K'tonton loves going to synagogue. But he doesn't go when people are there. He's kinda scared that he will be stepped on and squished. (Hey, wouldn't you be scared of that, too?!) So he sneaks inside the synagogue when no one else is around. Little K'tonton feels so good in the synagogue. He scurries about with a big smile on his face. He has teeny, tiny little feet so it takes quite a bit of time for him to make his way around the room, but that does not stop him from coming every opportunity he has! He loves scuttling about, sitting on the chairs pretending his legs are long enough to reach the floor. He loves climbing the bookshelves, pretending to read the *Siddur* prayer books. He loves gazing at the huge charity box wishing that he could add a shiny coin inside (but the coin is practically the size of his body). And he loves standing near the front of the synagogue pretending to be the rabbi.

But what he loves best is being near the *Aron Kodesh*, the large, beautiful cabinet in the front and center of the room. He's visited the synagogue so many times he knows just what is behind those incredible doors...



...Awesome Torah scrolls! Each, wearing a rich velvet coat – he's not sure which color he prefers – with detailed gold embroidery design. The Torahs wear a silver crown and a silver necklace. No ordinary crown or necklace...oh no! Torah crowns and necklaces.

Now, Little K'tonton has a vivid imagination – which is a good thing, because a vivid imagination allows you to be anyone or anything. In Little K'tonton's imagination, it is he who opens those glorious doors, letting everyone see the incredible Torah scrolls sitting inside.

It is he who carries the Torah to the table, taking off its velvet coat and opening the scroll wide open.

It is he who holds the Torah scroll high, arms stretched wide, hands tight around the handles, heart filled with pride.

It is he who reads the words of the Torah aloud, in a special tune, pointing to the words with a silver pointer. It is he who feels proud that everyone heard the words of the Torah, learning all the important things it teaches.

It's a good thing Little K'tonton has a vivid imagination, because it is not likely that he'll ever get a turn to do all this. After all, when was the last time you saw a teeny tiny human being the size of the palm of your hand holding a Torah scroll?



## THE DIALOGUE

QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

- ◆ Have you ever been to *shul* (synagogue) as they opened the Torah's ark and taken out the Torahs? What did it feel like? If you haven't been, what would you imagine it could feel like?