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# Here Is The World: A Year Of Jewish Holidays



## Synopsis

Here is the world, ever changing and new, Spinning with joy at the wonder of you! Here Is the World is a joyous celebration of the Jewish holidays throughout the year for young children. Beginning with the weekly observance of Shabbat, readers join a family through the holidays and the corresponding seasons. From sounding the shofar on Rosh Hashanah to lighting the menorah for Chanukah to rattling a grogger for Purim, and on through the Jewish year, the joy and significance of each holiday beautifully come to life. In addition to the narrative text, there is a description of each holiday in the back matter along with an easy craft or recipe. Praise for Here is the World "Both lovely and eminently useful." --Kirkus Reviews "Illustrating the change of seasons, GalÃ¢s charcoal and digital collage images effervesce with cheery colors, moving from the radiant gold, yellows, and reds of autumn to the greens and blues of springÃ¢s with a stop in snowy winter for Chanukah, of course." --Publishers Weekly Ã¢

## Book Information

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Age Range: 5 - 7 years

Grade Level: Kindergarten - 2

## Customer Reviews

PreS-KÃ¢s •With a warm, sing-song patter and exquisite illustrations, this lovely picture book introduces young children to a joyous year of Jewish holidays and celebrations. Highlighting the essence of each season's offerings, the rhyming text moves smoothly from a summer baby naming to autumn's Rosh Hashanah, Yom Kippur, and Sukkot, and so on through the Jewish year ("Here is the sukkah, its roof made of twigs. Here are some grapes, pomegranates, and figs."). Yet the true

stars here are the richly hued, digitally collaged illustrations, which add depth and whimsy. These pictures contain such warmth and life that readers will want to jump in and join the festivities. Each spread displays an abundance of colors and textures that work perfectly to create distinctive moods for the various holidays, whether it's a gregarious Simchat Torah parade, the warm glow of a Chanukah menorah, or the freshness of an early spring day planting trees for Tu B'Shevat. Back matter includes a more detailed description of each holiday, crafts, and recipes. A distinctive and welcome addition. —Teri Markson, Los Angeles Public Library

"A distinctive and welcome addition." (Teri Markson, Los Angeles Public Library School Library Journal 2014-11-01)"These warm illustrations and cheery verses will likely build anticipation all year long." (Sarah Hunter Booklist 2014-11-15)

This book has wonderful pictures and a beautiful cadence to the story.

I realize this is a childrens' book, but it really didn't go into much explanation about Jewish Holidays. The section in the back has activities, projects and recipes for grade-school children, but the text is more a preschool level. However, the format of explaining the holidays as they came up over the course of the baby's first year was very clever, and the illustrations were beautiful.

Best book ever about the Jewish holidays, meant for young children but enjoyed by the entire family. Also outstanding illustrations.

I'm always looking for books for my Jewish library. This one is quite lovely with the explanations and illustrations.

A+++.

Beautiful, bright and meaningful illustrations, each showing a warm Jewish family celebrating each holiday together, often with extended family or a broader Jewish community. The holidays begin with a young family of four welcoming a new baby (you might not notice at first, but the mother is pregnant on the title page), moving to Friday evening Shabbat and a trip to the synagogue. The reader goes through that child's first year, with the family celebrating each of the various holidays set within the changing of the seasons. The book closes with yet another mention of Shabbat, this

time with a sunny Saturday afternoon picnic and finally the setting sun and a celebration of life in general. The rhymes are fluid and pleasant to read out loud. After the story are a couple of pages describing each custom and holiday in more detail. Last of all are several pages of recipes and crafts, each with its own illustration. Recipes include: a noodle kugel for Yom Kippu break-fast, an edible sukkah, an edible Torah, Chanukah latkes, and a Land of Milk and Honey Shavuot milkshake. Crafts include: a welcome home banner for a naming cement, a Shabbat challah cover, Rosh Hashana New Year's cards, directions for growing a parsley plant for Tu B'shevat, a grogger (noisemaker) for Purim, and Passover Seder plate placemats. A gem of a book that Jewish families with pre-K aged children would appreciate.

I recieved this book through PJ's library and am really thrilled with it. It is a great primer for introducing your kids to the Jewish calendar year. It is just the right mix of informative and fun. My kids love the rhymes and they have new questions every time we read it. My only criticism is I don't care for the illustrations, but that is more of a personal thing I suppose.

This is a beautiful book! It has been a joy to learn about the Jewish holidays through my daughter who attends a Jewish preschool and this one caught my eye in the temple library. It is beautifully written and illustrated - I particularly love the art work - heartwarming and colorful. It's the perfect gift! I am purchasing it for friends whose wedding I attended for their first child - I cannot think of a more ideal gift and hope the new parents and little bundle of joy will enjoy it with more siblings to come in the years ahead, G-d willing. The author and illustrator have done outstanding work and deserve to win medals.

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