

# Shavuos Pictionary: Halachos and Minhagim Review Game

By Montreal Teachers' Center Torah Umesorah

**Grade Level:** Elementary, Middle School, High School

**Description:**

Play Shavuos Pictionary to review five of the Halachos and Minhagim pertaining to the Yom Tov of Shavuos! To further solidify the information presented by this game, this item also includes a corresponding review sheet for students to fill-out upon completing the activity. Use this game to review Halachos and Minhagei Shavuos as part of a Shavuos Halacha/Yahadus unit.

What to download

- Download the print-ready PDF file (includes lesson plan/instructions).

**Goals/Objectives:**

Students will review some Halachos and Minhagei Shavuos by playing this Pictionary game and by filling out the sheet.

**Materials Needed:**

- 8 cards provided (printed on glossy cardstock and cut-out)
- Page of pictures (printed on regular paper) – one per player
- Scrap paper and a pen or pencil for each player

**Instructions:**

1. Distribute the cards to the players as evenly as possible. Leave the picture pages face-down on the center of the table.
2. Each player gets a chance to draw the Minhag or Halacha that his/her card is about. The other players must try to figure out which Minhag or Halacha she is drawing.
3. As soon as someone correctly guesses what the card is about, the player who drew the picture reads his/her entire card to the group and the next player has a chance to draw.
4. When all the cards have been drawn and guessed, each player should take a page of pictures from the center of the table and write his/her name on it. Fold the page in half along its length, with the pictures on the outside of the fold.
5. Cut under each picture until the fold, making 8 flaps on the paper.
6. Under each flap, write about the Minhag or Halacha that it corresponds to, based on what you learned from the Pictionary cards.

**Variations:**

Use the review sheet to review your lesson about Hilchos Uminhagei Shavuos, without playing the Pictionary game.

# STAYING UP TO LEARN ALL NIGHT

It is a **מנהג** to stay up all night to learn **תורה** to be **מתקן** ("fix") the mistake that some of **בנ"י** made by going to sleep the night before **תורה**. They should have been too excited to sleep!



# מאכלי חלב

It is a **מנהג** to eat **milchig** foods on **שבועות** because after **בנ"י** received the **תורה** they only ate **milchigs**. The reason was because they all had to **Kasher** their dishes and learn all the **הלכות** of **שחיטה** and separating **milchigs** and **fleishigs** etc.

(It is also interesting to note that the **גמטריא** of the word **חלב**-milk is 40, equal to the 40 days that **משה רבינו** was in **שמים** to get the **תורה**.)



# הלל

We say the whole הלל on שבועות to thank ה' for giving us His wonderful and special gift- the תורה!



# FLOWERS

It is a מנהג to decorate our homes with flowers and greenery לכבוד שבועות. We do this הר סיני סיני which ה' made beautiful with flowers. Also, the תורה is compared to a rose in the following משל: A king once saw that his garden was full of thorns. He was about to destroy the whole thing when he noticed one beautiful rose. The king decided it was worth saving the whole garden for that lovely flower. Similarly, the world is full of "thorns" but it is saved because of the beautiful תורה.



# עירוב תבשילין

Although we are allowed to cook on יום טוב, we are only permitted to cook and prepare foods for that day, not for the next day. Whenever a יום טוב day falls on ערב שבת, we must make an עירוב תבשילין. This means that we must prepare a cooked food and a baked food (usually an egg and a מצה) BEFORE יום טוב begins so that we will be allowed to cook on יום טוב (Friday) for the following day (שבת). Otherwise we are only allowed to cook on יום טוב for that very day and not for the next day, and on שבת we are not allowed to cook at all.



# תהלים

It is a מנהג to read the entire ספר תהלים (or as much as one is capable of reading) because דוד המלך who wrote ספר תהלים was born and נפטר on שבת.



# אקדמות

It is a **מנהג** to read the beautiful poem called **אקדמות** on **שבועות**. It is a poem which describes the greatness and wonder of **הקב"ה** and the beauty of the **תורה**. It was written by a great **צדיק** named **ר' מאיר בן ר' יצחק** who lived about 1000 years ago in Europe.



# מגילת רות

It is a **מנהג** to read **מגילת רות** on **שבועות** for a few reasons:

1. The story happened during **זמן הקציר** - harvesting time - which is when the **יום טוב** of **שבועות** takes place.
2. **רות** was a descendant of **דוד המלך** and he was born and **נפטר** on **שבועות**.
3. Just as **בני** accepted the **תורה** upon themselves on **שבועות**, the story of **רות** tells how she accepted the **תורה** upon herself.



