

Passover Musical Told as a Play for Children & Adults

Actors:

2 slaves
Yocheved
Miriam
Pharoah's daughter
Moses
Aaron
Egyptian overseer/Pharoah's soldier
King Pharoah

Props:

Yocheved (head scarf & baby Moses in basket, blue sheet for Nile River)
Miriam (pink slave head dress w/ scarf)
King Pharoah (crown and white cape/wrap)
Egyptian overseer/Pharoah's soldier (plain white head dress & horse)
Pharoah's daughter (pink cape and tiara)
Moses (slave head dress and staff)
Aaron (slave head dress)
2 slaves (2 head dresses, blocks for bricks, drums, tambourines, and torah)
burning bush
plague bag

(The play is narrated by the adults and acted out by the children. Everyone may sing.)

Scene One: Slaves in Egypt

Reader: Today, most Jewish people are free to live their lives as they wish. But more than three thousand years ago, our people, the Israelites, were slaves in Egypt. For hundreds of years they were forced to work long, hard days in the hot desert sun. They made bricks and built cities for King Pharoah.

Bang, Bang, Bang

*Bang, bang, bang
Hold your hammer low
Bang, bang, bang
Give a heavy blow.*

*For it's work, work, work
Every day and every night*

*For it's work, work, work,
When it's dark and when it's light.*

*Dig, dig, dig
Dig your shovel deep.
Dig, dig, dig
There's no time to sleep.*

For it's work, work, work...

*Run, Run, Run there's no time to waste
Run, Run, Run Pharaoh's on his chase (Chorus)*

For it's work, work, work...

Reader: As much as Pharaoh tried to destroy the Israelites through hard work and slavery, their population grew. One day, the cruel Pharaoh decided there were too many Israelite slaves. He feared that someday they would rise up against him. So he decreed that all the boy babies be drowned in the river!

Reader: The Israelite women wouldn't follow Pharaoh's orders and secretly hid the baby boys. After hiding her baby for the first three months of his life, Yocheved placed him in a basket among the reeds of the Nile River. The baby's sister, Miriam, promised to watch over her baby brother.

Reader: Then, Pharaoh's daughter, a princess, came to bathe in the Nile River. God chose that moment to make the baby cry. The princess took pity on him and said, "I know you are a Hebrew child but I will not let you die as my father decreed." She named the baby Moses because she "drew him out of the water". Miriam watched Pharaoh's daughter find Moses and convinced the princess to allow Yocheved to work for her as Moses' nursemaid.

Baby Moses Song

*Where is baby Moses, Moses, Moses,
Where is baby Moses, in the River Nile*

*She put him in a basket, basket, basket
She put him in a basket, in the River Nile.*

*Sister Miriam came swimming, swimming, swimming
Sister Miriam came swimming in the River Nile.*

*She took him to the palace, palace, palace
She took him to the palace from the River Nile.*

Scene 2: Moses Works to Free the Israelites

Reader: Moses was raised in the Egyptian palace. The time spent with his mother and family made a great impression on him. He felt great compassion for the slaves and realized that he too was an Israelite. When he was older, he came upon an Egyptian overseer beating a Hebrew slave. While trying to protect the slave, Moses killed the Egyptian. This so angered Pharaoh that he ordered Moses' death. And so Moses fled from Egypt – for forty years!

Reader: But Moses would return to Egypt. One day, while working as a shepherd in Midian, Moses saw a bush burning in the wilderness. Strangely, the bush kept burning; it was not consumed. Moses went toward the bush and found himself in the presence of God, who told him to help free the Israelites.

Let My People Go

*When Israel was in Egypt Land,
Let my people go
Oppressed so hard they could not stand.
Let my people go.
Go down, Moses, way down to Egypt land.
Tell old Pharaoh, Let my people go!*

Reader: Moses and his brother, Aaron, told Pharaoh to free their people but Pharaoh wouldn't listen. Pharaoh couldn't understand the existence of a God he couldn't see. In fact, Pharaoh felt that he was a god who should be worshipped by the Egyptians.

Oh Listen, King Pharaoh

*Oh listen, oh listen, oh listen King Pharaoh
Oh listen, oh listen, please let my people go.
They want to go away,
They work too hard each day,
King Pharaoh, King Pharaoh,
What do you say?
No, no, no, I will not let them go!
No, no, no, I will not let them go!*

Scene 3: Plagues & Escape

Reader: On that day, God sent down the first plague, turning the Nile River to blood. Oh, how it stank of dying fish! But Pharaoh still refused to let the Israelites go. So God sent down more plagues. Thousands of frogs filled the Egyptian beds, lice and wild beasts afflicted them. And cattle disease! Boils covered their bodies and hail pounded down from the sky. Still, Pharaoh would not let the Israelites go!

1. Dam/Blood:

*One morning when Ph. went for a swim
There was blood in the water all over him
~~head~~*

*Blood in his nose and blood on his toes
Blood here - blood there -
Blood was running everywhere!*

2. Tsfardea: Frogs

*One morning when Pharaoh woke in his bed
There were frogs on his bed & frogs on his ~~head~~*

*Frogs on nose and frogs on his toes
Frogs here, frogs there
Frogs were jumping every where
(Even in his underwear)*

3. Kinim/Lice:

*One morning when Ph. was combing his hair
~~his cows~~
He noticed that lice were crawling in there
~~sows~~*

*Lice in his comb and lice in his home
Lice here- lice there-
He was itching everywhere!*

6. Shchin/Boils:

One morning when Ph. was milking ~~his cows~~

He saw boils on the cows and boils on the ~~sows~~

*Boils on the lambs and boils on the rams
Boils here- boils there-
Boils appearing everywhere!*

9. Choshech/Darkness:

*One morning when Pharaoh went out in the street
It was so dark that Pharaoh couldn't see his feet
Couldn't see his nose and couldn't see his toes
Dark here - dark there -
There was darkness everywhere!*

Reader: Finally, after 10 plagues, Pharaoh understood the power of God. He gave up and freed the slaves.

Reader: The Israelites were forced to leave Egypt so quickly and their bread had no time to rise. So they ate flat bread called matzah.

Matzah song

*Make a matzah, pat, pat, pat
Do not make it fat, fat, fat
Make a matzah pat, pat, pat
This is the way for Pesach*

*Make charoset, chop, chop, chop
Take some wine and add a drop, drop, drop
Make charoset, chop, chop, chop
This is the way for Pesach*

*Take your herbs and dip, dip, dip
You may take a little nip, nip, nip
Take your herbs and dip, dip, dip
This is the way for Pesach*

Reader: After a few days of freedom, the Israelites arrived at the Sea of Reeds. Suddenly they saw the Egyptian army speeding toward them. The Israelites were trapped against the sea, with nowhere to go! They needed a miracle, and they got one. When Moses raised his staff, God parted the sea into two walls of water, and the Israelites walked across safely on dry land!

Reader: As soon as the Israelites were safely on the other shore, God told Moses, "Raise your staff again." When he did, God brought the waters crashing down, and Pharaoh's army was drowned.

Reader: Now, finally, they were free.

Avadim Hayeenu (We Were slaves and now we are free)

*Avadim Hayeenu, Hayeenu
Ata b'nai Choreen, b'nai Choreen
Avadim Hayeenu
Ata, Ata, b'nai Choreen
Avadim Hayeenu
Ata, Ata, b'nai Choreen, b'nai Choreen*

Scene 4: Celebration

Reader: In praise of God the men and women danced and sang, filling the air with the sound of their timbrel and drums.

Miriam's Song

*And the women dancing with their timbrels
Followed Miriam as she sang her song
Sing a song to the One whom we've exalted.
Miriam and the women danced and danced
the whole night long.*

*And Miriam was a weaver of unique variety.
The tapestry she wove was one which sang our history.
With every thread and every strand
she crafted her delight.
A woman touched with spirit, she dances
toward the light. (Chorus)*

*As Miriam stood upon the shores and gazed across the sea,
The wonder of this miracle she soon came to believe.
Whoever thought the sea would part with an outstretched hand,
And we would pass to freedom, and march to the promised land. (Chorus)*

*And Miriam the Prophet took her timbrel in her hand,
And all the women followed her just as she had planned.
And Miriam raised her voice with song.
She sang with praise and might,
We've just lived through a miracle, we're going to dance tonight. (Chorus)*

Reader: And, after forty years of wandering, the Israelites were ready to enter the Promised Land and live according to God's laws, the Ten Commandments and the Torah.

Torah Song

*Torah, torah, torah
Torah, torah, torah
Torah tziva lanu Moshe*

*Torah, torah
Torah, torah
Torah tziva lanu Moshe*