

# ט"ו בשבט



**Tu B'shvat is almost here! Here's some good fun to prepare for the New Year for trees. Hunt for the answers to the questions below with the websites given... and Happy New Year!**

[http://www.akhlah.com/holidays/tubshvat/tu\\_bshvat.php](http://www.akhlah.com/holidays/tubshvat/tu_bshvat.php)

<http://www.torahtots.com/holidays/tubshvat/tubstory.htm>

[http://www.chabad.org/library/article\\_cdo/aid/468738/jewish/Tu-BShevat-What-and-How.htm](http://www.chabad.org/library/article_cdo/aid/468738/jewish/Tu-BShevat-What-and-How.htm)

<http://www.treesaregood.com/funfacts/funfacts.aspx>

<http://www.joi.org/celebrate/tubshevat/index.shtml>

- 1) Why do you think it is important to have a holiday, even a *New Year*, for trees?

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- 2) On what date do we celebrate the holiday of Tu B'shvat, and why does it seem most appropriate to celebrate it at this time of the year? (hint: Tu B'shvat centers around Israel)

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- 3) If you were a farmer living in the time of the *Beit Hamikdash* (the Temple), and Tu B'shvat came, what would you do with the fruit that blossomed after this date? To whom would you give it? How much would you give?

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4) What kind of fruit is customary to eat on Tu B'shvat, and what extra blessing do we add?

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5) 'A person is like a tree in a field' (*Devarim* 20:19). How is this true? What can trees come to teach us?

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6) Name at least four mitzvot that Israelis have to follow that are connected to planting trees, or taking fruit from trees. Why do you think we have these mitzvot?

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7) There are four New Years throughout the Jewish calendar. What does each one commemorate, and what do you think each one comes to teach us?

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8) One of the lessons that Tu B'shvat comes to teach us is awareness of our environment. If you were a tree what would you request that humans do for you? Give at least three answers.

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9) One of the customs on Tu B'shvat is to have a seder, similar to that which we do on Pesach. How would you run your Tu B'shvat Seder?

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10) Give at least three ideas of how you can commemorate Tu B'shvat this year.

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