

## Bet (2nd Grade) Torah Stories

### The Mamas and the Papas Torah Family Tree

**Activity #1:** To review from last year, read the 3 attached Bible stories about the mamas (matriarchs) and papas (patriarchs) of the Jewish people and/or read the character descriptions below. Using the Matriarch & Patriarch Family Tree Pictures page, cut out one set of character pictures and glue or tape them on the family tree in the correct place.



**Abraham-** Known as the “father” of the Jewish people, Abraham is thought to be the first person to believe in ONE God. Abraham and his wife Sarah left their home to come to the land of Canaan to build a home for his children, grandchildren and future family members.



**Sarah-** As the wife of Abraham, she left her home to help make a home for the Jewish people. Sarah gave birth to Isaac when she was old.



**Isaac-** As son of Abraham and Sarah, Isaac led the Jewish people, after Abraham. Isaac and his wife Rebecca had twin sons, Jacob and Esau.



**Rebecca-** Rebecca showed kindness by helping Isaac’s servant. She had twin sons, Jacob and Esau. Esau was strong and enjoyed hunting. Jacob stayed indoors helping with house chores. Rebecca thought Jacob should be the next leader of the Jewish people, even though it was Esau’s right as the older son. Rebecca helped Jacob trick Isaac. Isaac blessed Jacob instead of Esau and Jacob became the next leader.



**Jacob-** Jacob was the clever, younger son of Isaac and Rebecca. With the help of his mother, Jacob became the next leader of the Jewish people. One day while sleeping near the road, Jacob was woken up by someone who began to wrestle with him. Jacob wrestled back and defeated the stranger. Later he learned that this was an angel of God, and after that meeting, Jacob was called “Yisrael” (Israel), which means “one who wrestles with God” in Hebrew.



**Leah-** Leah is the first wife of Jacob. Leah is the older sister of Rachel. Jacob worked for Laban, the father of Leah and Rachel, for 7 years so he could marry Rachel. Laban tricked Jacob into marrying Leah instead, so Jacob had to work ANOTHER 7 years to REALLY marry Rachel. Long ago, men could have more than one wife. Leah had six sons and one daughter.



**Rachel-** Rachel was loved very much by Jacob. Jacob worked for 14 years for her father, Laban, in order to be able to marry her. Rachel is the mother of Jacob’s favorite son, Joseph, and the youngest of all of Jacob’s sons, Benjamin.

**Activity #2:** Cut out a second set of bible character pictures. Ask someone to read the clues below and students must determine which character is being described. Then, students will hold up the picture for the correct person. To make it even more fun, cut out another set of cards for siblings or friends and see who can hold up the correct picture first!

**Clue #1:** My husband's servant noticed me at the well because I offered water to him and to his camels. I love both of my sons, but I do not think the older one should be leader of the household.

**Clue #2:** I was so old when God said I was going to have a baby boy that I LAUGHED. In case you didn't know, my name means "Princess" in Hebrew.

**Clue #3:** When I was younger, my father was tested by God. When I got older, I married a kind woman and we had twin sons. One of them tricked me when I was very old to get my blessing.

**Clue #4:** Since I was the older sister, I became the first wife and mother to more than half of the children in our family. The Torah says that I had problems with my vision.

**Clue #5:** Even though everyone around me believed in many gods, I believed in just one God. I left my homeland to go to a new place that was promised to my family by God.

**Clue #6:** I am known as the most beloved wife because my husband worked many years of his life in order to marry me. My son Joseph was a special child.

**Clue #7:** I am the brother who would have enjoyed watching "Top Chef". My sons became known as the 12 Tribes of Israel.

Answers: 7. Jacob 6. Rachel 5. Abraham 4. Leah 3. Isaac 2. Sarah 1. Rebecca