

## Family Folklore and the Magic Megillah

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"Family Folklore and the Magic Megillah" gives parents the opportunity to explore their own family history and share that legacy through storytelling. The preparation for the program encourages parents to recall and research family stories that might have been either untold for many years or forgotten. In sharing these stories with their children, parents not only revive the stories, but also give their children and themselves the gift of positive family memories. In sharing their stories with other families and in listening to the stories of one another, each participant builds on his or her own pride and also begins to see the common threads that unite all Jewish families.



We can reinforce family values and our personal history by telling family stories to our children.

### Topic:

The unique family folklore of each family and the common threads that tie all Jewish families together.

### Target Audience:

This program works best for families with children in second, third or fourth grade.

### Time Frame:

The entire program takes two hours. This includes 1 hour and 15 minutes of parents and children together and 45 minutes with a separate parent study session while the children are decorating their megillah cases.

### Staff:

The program has been done successfully with a group as small as 30 participants and as large as 150 participants. An experienced facilitator can do the parent and child piece alone, even with a large group. Additional staff will be needed for the separate sessions in which parents and children each have their own activities. There should be 1 staff person for every 10 - 15 children for the art activity. The facilitator can lead the parent study session alone or can be joined by a member of the clergy or a mental health professional.

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### Highlights:

- Inter-generational Storytelling
- Dramatic Skits
- Parent Study—Why Tell Stories?
- Magic Megillah Craft
- Tips for Building Family History by storyteller Cherie Karo Schwartz

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