

School-Wide Chumash Vocabulary Contest

By Rabbi Yaakov Aichenbaum

Grade Level: Elementary-Middle School

Description:

Promote Chumash vocabulary with this fun, multi-sensory school-wide contest. Students learn a new word(s) every week, make a mnemonic picture or drawing of the word, and their work is displayed on a bulletin board. Students receive weekly prizes and a chance to win \$5 in the weekly raffle. This contest was originally sponsored by the resource room so it helps remove some of the stigma of going to the resource room.

Goals/Objectives:

Students will acquire new Chumash vocabulary words through this contest and will associate pictures or mnemonic devices with the word to help them remember the vocabulary.

Materials Needed:

- 5 x 7 index cards
- Colored markers
- Bulletin board
- Prizes

Instructions:

1. The introduction letter with contest instructions should be given to the students.
2. The contest coordinator should visit classrooms to answer any questions that students have.
3. Every week, a new word is announced. The students write the Hebrew word and its translation on an index card.
4. They also make a colored picture or mnemonic device of the word. Older students also need to write a passuk that contains the word.
5. When they hand in their card, each student receives a small prize and an entry into the weekly \$5 contest.
6. Only accept entries that are neat and that follow the guidelines.
7. A raffle is held and all the entries are displayed on a bulletin board.
8. The \$5 winner's picture and next week's word are also put on the bulletin board.
9. The border of the bulletin board can have previous words written on it.
10. In my school, about half of the students participate every week. Since it is sponsored by the resource room, the contest has been great PR for the resource room. The contest has helped to eliminate the stigma of going to the resource room.

Variations:

- Students can also be asked to write a synonym or antonym of this week's word.
- Changing the format every few weeks prevents the contest from becoming boring.



from the

Limudei Kodesh Resource Room

Date: 9/3/2008

From: Rabbi Yaakov Aichenbaum

RE: The Limudei Kodesh Resource Room **\$5** Vocabulary Contest

Dear students,

The Limudei Kodesh Resource Room is excited to sponsor a new school-wide Hebrew vocabulary contest. Each week, one vocabulary word will be featured. Everyone who enters the contest will receive a prize and will be eligible to participate in the weekly **\$5** raffle. Please follow the following guidelines in order to participate in this program:

- Get a 4 x 6 index card (index cards are available in the Resource Room).
- Write or type the vocabulary word of the week and its English translation on the index card (you can ask anyone for the translation of the word).
- Make a picture in color on the index card that shows the meaning of the word. It can be an actual picture of the word or even a mnemonic device. You can make it by hand or computer.
- Students in the 6th-8th grades also need to write a *passuk* from *Tanach* that uses the word of the week.
- Write your name on the bottom right corner of the index card.
- Bring your completed project to the Limudei Kodesh Resource Room by the end of school each Thursday and receive a prize.
- Fill out a raffle ticket.

One raffle ticket will be picked on Erev Shabbos and the winner will receive a **\$5** bill. The deadline for submitting the first word is Thursday September 11. The first word is **לחם**. I am looking forward to see your projects and to give someone a **\$5** bill.

Yours truly,

Rabbi Yaakov Aichenbaum

YOU CAN
GET A PRIZE
AND A
CHANCE TO
WIN 
EVERY WEEK



גִּדּוּל-Grew

וַיְהִי בַּיָּמִים הָהֵם וַיִּגְדַּל מֹשֶׁה וַיֵּצֵא אֶל-אָחִיו וַיֵּרָא בְּסִבְלָתָם וַיֵּרָא אִישׁ מִצָּרִי מִכָּה אִישׁ-עֶבְרִי מֵאָחִיו

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