

# Gem Seeking

## LITTLE GEMS STORY

### Parent/Teacher Preparation:

Please see the [Instructions for the Little Gems Story](#) on the YMTOI website. This will help you to understand how to prepare for the story.

### Let the Counting Begin!

Shalom children! In our last Little Gems story, we learned all about the first Passover that the children of Yisra'el participated in. **(Place Passover scene on board.)** Today we are going to learn about another instruction Yahweh gave to them regarding counting. Yes, you heard right! Yahweh wanted them to do some counting. Who here likes math? Well, you can help your friends with the counting.

He told Mosheh that when they entered the Promised Land of Kena'an **(place land of Kena'an on board)** that they were to remember Yahweh for all His provisions by always bringing the very first of their crops to him as first-fruits. In Hebrew this is called 'bikkurim.'

Yahweh said that He wanted the children of Yisra'el to bring a 'sheaf' of the first barley grain from their harvest to the priest to be waved at the Dwelling Place. The priest would take a bundle of sheaves and then wave them before Yahweh. **(Place priest waving barley sheaves on board.)** That was his job and no one else's. This waving of the barley sheaf was to be done the day after the first day of Unleavened Bread.

Now here is where the counting comes in. The day that the sheaf was waved was Day 1. **(Place #1 on board.)** Then they were to count up to day 50 the next Holy day of Shavuot. **(Place #50 on board.)** Does anyone remember what happened on the day of Shavuot? **(Allow children to answer.)** That was when they received the 10 Commandments. **(Place 2 tablets on board.)**

Receiving the Commandments was a wonderful experience and we will learn more about that on Shavuot, but for the next 7 weeks we will count as Yahweh instructed us to do.

Yahweh wanted them to do a few other things besides counting when they go to the land. Because we aren't in the land we can't do those things that Yahweh wanted them to do, but it's always good to know what they did as reminders of their experience and journey.



Besides bringing their wave sheaf, they were also to bring a perfect lamb, a year old to be offered as a burnt offering. **(Place lamb on board.)** We will learn all about burnt offerings when we get to the book of Leviticus. They were also to bring a grain offering of flour mixed with oil **(place grain offering on board)** as well as a drink offering of wine **(place wine on board.)**

It was only after they brought these offerings that they could then eat from their harvest. But first they had to bring Yahweh their first-fruits to the priest. **(Place man bringing first-fruits on board.)** Now you may be thinking that barley isn't a fruit, but it was the first 'fruit' of their labor. This is the reward or benefit of all their hard work.

Ok, so we know that we are supposed to count from 1 to 50. As part of the counting, we should take time to thank Yahweh for all His goodness in our lives and maybe think of one thing a day to be thankful for. **(Place thankful emoji on board.)** I'll start first. I'm thankful for all you wonderful children!

Well children we have come to the end of our story for today. We will see you next time for another exciting Little Gems story.

