

Matzah Man to the Rescue!

By Eric A. Kimmel | Illustrated by Charles Fowkes

READING & ACTIVITY GUIDE

About the Book

Getting ready for Passover is a lot of work. There is so much to do. Something always goes wrong. That's when it's time to call Matzah Man!

He soars across the sky to help families save their seders and fix their Passover emergencies. When a cat takes the shank bone, Matzah Man is there with a carrot substitute. When mice nibble on the matzah, he is there with all different varieties of matzah, from whole-wheat and round shmurah matzah.

Matzah Man then travels to help a family in Morocco. In need of charoset, he learns something new about what Passover looks like there. Charoset in Morocco is made with dates, and Matzah Man can't find a creative substitute for that. He powers up with his miracle matzah balls to travel across the world to San Diego and back before sunset.

While he helped save so many families' seder, Matzah Man doesn't know if he'll make it home in time for his. That's when he gets help from the friendly prophet Elijah, who is invited to every home on Passover.



Key Themes:

Creative problem solving; Diversity; Family and community; Passover traditions

ISBN 978-1-68115-638-5

Ages 6–8 years

Use these questions to preface and conclude a reading of this book with children.

Encourage them to share their observations as you read the book together, and take time to linger on pages or spreads that generate more discussion.

Before Reading

- Look at the character on the cover. What do you think his job is? How do you know? Does he remind you of any other characters you've seen before?
- What do you think of when you hear the words, "Matzah Man to the Rescue." What holiday does it make you think of? What do you think Matzah Man is going to do in the book?

While Reading

As you read the book, you will come across some Hebrew words such as matzah, charoset, and maror. Do you know what those words mean? If not, what clues can you find to help you figure it out?

After Reading

- Matzah Man to the Rescue is a graphic novel. Graphic novels use a combination of pictures and words to tell the story. Have you read other graphic novels? Which ones? How does a graphic novel tell a story differently than other kinds of books you've read before?
- In the book, Matzah Man visits families celebrating Passover in Morocco, Jerusalem, and California. If you could choose one place around the world to celebrate Passover, which would you pick? Why?
- Go back and look at the clothing of the different characters. Compare what the family wears in Morocco with the clothing the family wears in California. What is different? What is the same? What does their clothing tell us about them? What does Elijah's clothing tell us about him? What about Latke Lady's?

Optional: Extension Activity

Pick a holiday other than Passover and design a superhero character like Matzah Man for it. Choose a name for the hero and their powers. Design their costume. Then think about what problem might happen on that holiday, and how could your character swoop in and save the day.

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CHARACTER CUT OUTS



