Continue activities following the story – The Patience of Hillel the Elder



By: **Dvora Omer (Based on a Talmudic tale)**
Illustrations
הוֹצָאָה: מודן
Age Group: **Preschool (3-5)**

כְּלָלִי

Family Activities

- Notice the fly in the illustrations that accompany the story: It, too, tries to irritate, and usually, it succeeds. Try to tell the story with your children from the fly's vantage point.
- In order to shake Hillel out of his tranquility the man chose to approach him at a very inconvenient time of day: just before the start of the Sabbath. Are there times when it is not advisable to ask your children questions or to request something of them? Do your children know when it is not advisable to ask you questions?
- You can act out the story with your children. You can wrap the head of "Hillel" with a large towel, and add a tub and bath accessories. The "friend" can look for Hillel, call out to him and make up strange questions of his own. You are invited to photograph your skit and send the pictures to the Sifriyat Pijama website: pj.crunchcart.com/.
- In the story a man approaches Hillel and attempts to provoke him. Coping with provocation is a task required of almost all young children. The story about Hillel may present an opportunity for family discussion on the topic of teasing and

provocation, and an invitation for your children to describe how they know when one child is trying to provoke another, and what one can do when this happens.

- You can make your own bubble bath: Take some old soap and shred it with a grater into a bowl. Add warm water and whip it with a mixer until you get thick suds. You can add a few drops of food coloring to the suds. The children will enjoy bathing with the special suds they made with you!
- Hillel was an exemplary figure who knew how to control his anger. What helps us overcome our anger? You can prepare a "Hillel doll" with your children. The children can ask for advice from the doll and tell it what helps them get over their anger. Make the doll from an old sock, on which you can draw a mouth, glue two eyes, and add white hair from cotton wool. You can even make a hat for the doll. Place your hand inside the sock, and have the doll answer the children's or parents' questions and make up new stories. This is also an opportunity for you to share with your children ways that help you cope with anger when it arises.