



Yahadut Zmaneinu, Moreshet Ha'am

YOZMA

AN ISRAELI JEWISH INITIATIVE IN MODI'IN



משנכנס אדר מרבין בשמחה When the Month of Adar Enters, Our Joy Increases

The month of Adar began at our *Ganim* (preschool) with an especially happy and festive *Rosh Hodesh* ceremony. The children welcomed in the month with special hats, painted faces, a variety of costumes, and naturally, with noisemakers and song. Throughout this month the children learned about the traditions connected to the holiday: hearing the reading of *Megillat Esther*, giving *Mishloach Manot* – Purim Gift baskets, donating charity to the poor and partaking in the Purim feast. Of course we delved deeper into the various stories connected to the holiday in order to better understand the meaning of the different traditions and commandments. We concentrated on the different female figures in the *Megilla*, Vashti, Esther and Zeresh (Haman's wife) while understanding each woman's contribution to the development of the Purim plot.

The children made small gifts to give to their friends and gathered gifts to donate to the needy. In addition the *ganim* were transformed into castles and the children were thrilled and excited to play in them. They dressed up as the different characters and acted out the story of Purim. The atmosphere was especially festive and exciting.

- In our Nature Corner the children observed how the animals camouflage themselves and learned what situations determine this activity.
- ◆ In the after-school program we "traveled" to Persia and learned about the customs, special foods, and unique musical instruments. We invited families of Persian descent to join us in our activities.

The celebrations culminated when the children came to school dressed in costumes. We stepped out for a grand Purim parade led by Rabbi Kinneret from the preschool campus and throughout the city full of mirth and joy. After the parade we enjoyed a Purim feast *fit for a king*.

HAPPY HOLIDAY!!!

YOZMA - Judaism of Our Time, Heritage of Our People

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