Grade 5 Biblical Hebrew

First edition · 5 units · 10 lessons · one quarter · Hebrew from the Leningrad Codex

FIRST EDITION

Course guide

Grade 5 Biblical Hebrew is a short course of 10 lessons (5 units of 2), one lesson a week for a quarter, with three sessions of 30–40 minutes a week.

The student learns the first building blocks of Biblical Hebrew grammar: the article ha- (the), the conjunction ve- (and), masculine and feminine nouns, plurals in -im, -ot and -ayim, and the prepositions be-, le-, ke-, min, el, al and im.

Then the student learns the nouns of the creation week, translates Genesis 1:1 word by word, and learns the animals of Noah's ark, reading Genesis 7:9 and the dove with the olive leaf (Genesis 8:11).

> Every lesson has a short video, most under ten minutes, from Hebrew teaching channels approved for School Launch: Aleph with Beth (a free Christian Biblical Hebrew course with songs and easy Bible stories) and Daily Dose of Hebrew (two-minute verse readings by seminary professors), with a few single videos from Biblingo and BibleProject. The Daily Dose verse videos are made for adults; in the younger grades they are marked as the parent's video. Every lesson works without the video. Please preview every video yourself before you show it to your child. The videos were chosen by title and channel, and YouTube may show its own suggestions when a video ends, so stay nearby and stop the player when the lesson's part is done.

Start with Lesson 1.1 →

Who it is for

Written for students in grade 5 (about ages 10–11) who read independently. No earlier Hebrew is needed: the course reviews the letters and builds from there, though a student who has done earlier grades will feel at home. A parent or teacher reads along, joins the reading practice and checks the practice answers with the key. Nothing needs to be bought: every activity uses paper, index cards, pencil and household things.

How to use this course

1. **The weekly rhythm.** The quarter has 10 lessons, one a week, each with three sessions of 30–40 minutes. Session 1 is the warm-up, the teaching and the picture study (in the first lesson of each unit). Session 2 is the activity and the Hebrew notebook. Session 3 is the worked examples, the practice, the game and reading aloud: the student reads the week's Hebrew out loud to the family.
2. **Read it out loud every day.** Hebrew is learned by reading it aloud, a few minutes a day. Open every session by reading the alphabet, the vowel chart and the verses learned so far. Five minutes of cheerful reading beats an hour of silent staring.
3. **Story, then how Hebrew works, then doing.** The core ideas are written to be read aloud or read by the student. *The story* tells what happened; *How Hebrew works* explains the pattern; *Read it out loud* gives the sounds. After each paragraph, ask the student to tell it back.
4. **Flashcards.** Every lesson adds new letters, signs or words. Make a flashcard for each one: Hebrew on the front, the sounds and meaning on the back.
5. **The Hebrew notebook.** Use any notebook for the whole quarter: letter charts, vowel charts, copywork and translations. Write Hebrew from the right edge of the line. Date every page.
6. **Unit review and unit challenge.** Each unit ends with a short review (25 points), which may be done orally, and a unit challenge. Keep the challenge work in a folder.
7. **Right to left.** Hebrew is written and read from right to left, so a Hebrew book opens from what an English reader calls the back. Every Hebrew word in these lessons is set right to left; when the child writes, start at the right edge of the line.

8. **The word list.** The quarter teaches 41 letters, signs and words. Unit 1: הַשָּׁמַיִם (hashshamayim), הָאָרֶץ (ha'arets), הַמֶּלֶךְ (hammelekh), הָאִישׁ (ha'ish), קָצִיר (qatsir), קַיִץ (qayits), חֹרֶף (choref), לַיְלָה (laylah). Unit 2: אִשָּׁה (ishah), זָכָר (zakhar), נְקֵבָה (neqevah), בַּת (bat), כּוֹכָבִים (kokhavim), שְׁמוֹת (shemot), יָמִים (yamim), עֵינַיִם (einayim). Unit 3: בְּבֵית (beveit), לְעוֹלָם (le'olam), תֵּבָה (tevah), בַּיִת (bayit), מִן (min), עַל (al), עִם (im), אֲדָמָה (adamah). Unit 4: יַבַּשָׁה (yabbashah), יַמִּים (yammim), רָקִיעַ (raqia), עֵץ (ets), בָּרָא (bara), רֵאשִׁית (reshit), אֵת (et), אֱלֹהִים (Elohim). Unit 5: סוּס (sus), אַרְיֵה (aryeh), גָּמָל (gamal), נָחָשׁ (nachash), בְּהֵמָה (behemah), יוֹנָה (yonah), עֹרֵב (orev), זַיִת (zayit), עֶרֶב (erev).
9. **Printables.** Each lesson has a one-page worksheet, and the answers are in a separate key for the parent. Each unit review also has a printable key.
10. **The Hebrew Bible.** Hebrew verses are quoted from the Westminster Leningrad Codex, the public-domain electronic text of the Leningrad Codex, the oldest complete manuscript of the Hebrew Old Testament, copied around A.D. 1008. It is the Hebrew text the King James translators' Old Testament comes from (the Masoretic text), in its oldest complete copy. In the elementary grades the verses are shown with their vowel points but without the small cantillation marks (the musical accents), which would crowd a beginner's page; Biblical Hebrew I shows them in full. Hebrew verse numbers sometimes differ from English ones; every verse here is chosen so that the numbers match. God's own name, written with four letters (יהוה), is printed LORD in capitals in the King James; Jewish readers have long said Adonai ("Lord") in its place, and this course does the same. The English verse is always the King James Version, quoted exactly.

Scope and sequence

UNIT 1 · WEEKS 1–2

The and And

The first two pieces of Hebrew grammar: the article ha- (the), joined to the front of a word, and the conjunction ve- (and). Genesis 1:1 names the heaven and the earth, and Genesis 8:22 promises seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, day and night.

1.1 The Article: Ha-

1.2 And: Ve-

UNIT 2 · WEEKS 3–4

He and She, One and Many

Every Hebrew noun is masculine or feminine, and plurals end in -im or -ot. God created man in His own image, male and female; He telleth the number of the stars and calleth them all by their names.

2.1 Masculine and Feminine

2.2 Plurals: -im, -ot and -ayim

UNIT 3 · WEEKS 5–6

Little Words of Place

The prepositions: the three that join the front of a word (be- in, le- to, ke- like), and min (from), el (unto), al (upon) and im (with). I will dwell in the house of the LORD for ever; the LORD God formed man of the dust of the ground; and the Siloam inscription, carved in Hezekiah's tunnel.

3.1 In, To, Like: Be-, Le-, Ke-

3.2 From, Unto, Upon, With

UNIT 4 · WEEKS 7–8

The Words of Genesis 1

The nouns of the creation week and every word of Genesis 1:1. God called the dry land Earth and the waters Seas; and the Leningrad Codex, the oldest complete Hebrew Bible, from which this course takes its Hebrew text.

4.1 The Nouns of Creation

4.2 Every Word of Genesis 1:1

UNIT 5 · WEEKS 9–10

Animals of the Ark

The animals of Genesis in Hebrew, and the dove that brought back an olive leaf. Two and two went in unto Noah into the ark, male and female; and Jan Brueghel paints the animals gathering.

5.1 Two by Two: Animals in Hebrew

5.2 The Dove and the Olive Leaf

Weekly pacing calendar

WEEK	PLAN
1	• Session 1: Lesson 1.1 The Article: Ha-: warm-up, core ideas, key terms and picture study • Session 2: Lesson 1.1 reading practice, video and activity (“the” labels) • Session 3: Worked examples, practice, the game and the worksheet *Three sessions a week of 30–40 minutes. On the other days, read the week’s Hebrew words and verse aloud for five minutes.*
2	• Session 1: Lesson 1.2 And: Ve-: warm-up, core ideas, key terms and picture study • Session 2: Lesson 1.2 reading practice, video and activity (seasons wheel) • Session 3: Worked examples, practice, the game and the worksheet • End of unit: Unit 1 review and unit challenge (pairs book)
3	• Session 1: Lesson 2.1 Masculine and Feminine: warm-up, core ideas, key terms and picture study • Session 2: Lesson 2.1 reading practice, video and activity (pairs match) • Session 3: Worked examples, practice, the game and the worksheet
4	• Session 1: Lesson 2.2 Plurals: -im, -ot and -ayim: warm-up, core ideas, key terms and picture study • Session 2: Lesson 2.2 reading practice, video and activity (star chart) • Session 3: Worked examples, practice, the game and the worksheet • End of unit: Unit 2 review and unit challenge (one-and-many chart)
5	• Session 1: Lesson 3.1 In, To, Like: Be-, Le-, Ke-: warm-up, core ideas, key terms and picture study • Session 2: Lesson 3.1 reading practice, video and activity (in-to-like box) • Session 3: Worked examples, practice, the game and the worksheet
6	• Session 1: Lesson 3.2 From, Unto, Upon, With: warm-up, core ideas, key terms and picture study • Session 2: Lesson 3.2 reading practice, video and activity (map of motion) • Session 3: Worked examples, practice, the game and the worksheet • End of unit: Unit 3 review and unit challenge (preposition picture map)
7	• Session 1: Lesson 4.1 The Nouns of Creation: warm-up, core ideas, key terms and picture study • Session 2: Lesson 4.1 reading practice, video and activity (seven-day wheel)

WEEK	PLAN
	• Session 3: Worked examples, practice, the game and the worksheet
8	• Session 1: Lesson 4.2 Every Word of Genesis 1:1: warm-up, core ideas, key terms and picture study • Session 2: Lesson 4.2 reading practice, video and activity (seven-word scroll) • Session 3: Worked examples, practice, the game and the worksheet • End of unit: Unit 4 review and unit challenge (creation week poster)
9	• Session 1: Lesson 5.1 Two by Two: Animals in Hebrew: warm-up, core ideas, key terms and picture study • Session 2: Lesson 5.1 reading practice, video and activity (ark pairs mobile) • Session 3: Worked examples, practice, the game and the worksheet
10	• Session 1: Lesson 5.2 The Dove and the Olive Leaf: warm-up, core ideas, key terms and picture study • Session 2: Lesson 5.2 reading practice, video and activity (dove and olive leaf) • Session 3: Worked examples, practice, the game and the worksheet • End of unit: Unit 5 review and unit challenge (ark animal book)

Materials

Hebrew notebook (any notebook)

One for the quarter: charts, copywork and translations.

Index cards and a box, bag or ring to keep them

For the flashcard deck that grows every lesson.

Pencil, colored pencils and a fine-tip marker

For letter charts, vowel charts and lettering.

Scissors, glue, tape and some poster board or taped printer paper

For the unit challenges.

Grading

Grades come mostly from the daily work: reading aloud, the flashcard reviews, the notebook and the practice, because a language is learned by steady, honest repetition. A student who reads Hebrew out loud faithfully, keeps a neat notebook and corrects his or her own practice earns full credit.

PART	%
Reading aloud and flashcards	**30**
Hebrew notebook (dated pages, charts, copywork)	**25**
Practice (corrected with the answer key)	**15**
Unit reviews	**15**
Unit challenges	**15**

Scale: A 90–100, B 80–89, C 70–79, D 60–69. Below 60: repeat the reading drills and practice with help.

- A reading answer is right when every consonant and vowel is sounded; small differences of accent are fine.
- Unit reviews may be done orally for a student who writes slowly; the parent writes down the answers.
- Hebrew handwriting is graded on clear letter shapes written right to left, not on beauty.

A note to parents

You do not need to know Hebrew to teach this course. Every letter, vowel and word has its sounds written out, and every answer is in the answer key. Learn alongside your child, quiz each other with the flashcards, and let your child catch your mistakes.

Please preview every video yourself before you show it to your child. The videos were chosen by title and channel, and YouTube may show its own suggestions when a video ends, so stay nearby and stop the player when the lesson's part is done.

Why Biblical Hebrew? Because it is the language of most of the Old Testament, the Scriptures Jesus read and quoted. A student who can read even a little Hebrew sees with his or her own eyes the words behind the English Bible: In the beginning God created, and The LORD is my shepherd.

This is a course in the Hebrew of the Bible, not in modern politics. The stories are the stories of Scripture and of the faithful scribes, scholars and translators who copied and handed down the Hebrew text, told cheerfully and honestly.

UNIT 1

The and And

Lesson 1.1 teaches the article הַ + doubling, and its guttural forms הָ and הֶ, with Genesis 1:1 and Bierstadt's Sierra Nevada.

Lesson 1.2 teaches the conjunction וְ (and) and its other spellings וּ and וָ, with Genesis 8:22.

PREREQUISITES

- Grade 4 Biblical Hebrew (syllables, dagesh, gutturals), or fluent reading with all the vowels.

MASTERY CHECKLIST

- ☐ I can find the article and translate it "the."
- ☐ I can explain why the article is הָ before a guttural.
- ☐ I can find ve- in all its spellings and translate it "and."

LESSONS IN THIS UNIT

1.1	**The Article: Ha-**	3 sessions of 30–40 minutes
1.2	**And: Ve-**	3 sessions of 30–40 minutes

Unit 1 review

The student writes or answers aloud. The test is worth 20 points.

1. **5 pts**

   Translate: הָאָרֶץ and הַשָּׁמַיִם

2. **5 pts**

   Add “the”: יוֹם, עִיר

3. **5 pts**

   Translate: וּבֵין וְלַיְלָה

4. **5 pts**

   Say Genesis 8:22 in English.

ANSWER KEY

1. the earth; the heavens.
2. הַיּוֹם (the day), הָעִיר (the city: qamets before the guttural ayin).
3. and night; and between.
4. While the earth remaineth, seedtime and harvest, and cold and heat, and summer and winter, and day and night shall not cease.

Printable answer key (PDF, for the parent)

UNIT CHALLENGE: PAIRS BOOK

Make a small book of opposite pairs from Genesis 8:22 and Genesis 1: seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, day and night, heaven and earth, light and darkness. On each page write the Hebrew pair with ve-, the English, and a drawing.

LOOK FOR	WHAT IT MEANS
Reading	The student reads every pair aloud.
Grammar	Each ve- and each article is explained.
Translation	The pairs are translated correctly.
Care	Hebrew is written right to left with every vowel and mark in place.

UNIT 1 · THE AND AND · LESSON 1.1 OF 10 · 3 SESSIONS OF 30–40 MINUTES

1.1 The Article: Ha-

OBJECTIVES

- Find the article הַ and translate it “the.”
- Read the doubling dot after the article.
- Explain הָ and הֶ before gutturals.

> **Warm-up.** Say “a dog” and then “the dog.” What changed? “The” points to one we both know. Hebrew has a word for “the” but none for “a,” and its “the” is glued to the front of the word.

WATCH

Genesis 1:1

Daily Dose of Hebrew · 2:10

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jVmA5J_0d6A

> **WHEN TO WATCH**
> after the core reading; follow Genesis 1:1, then count every ha- in the story.

Note: Daily Dose of Hebrew: a seminary professor reads Genesis 1:1 in Hebrew and explains it; this one is for the parent.

BACKUP VIDEO

Easy Story 1 - הַיֶּלֶד הַקָּטָן - The Small Boy

Aleph with Beth · 3:24

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oY0n91hfSwI

Aleph with Beth's Easy Story 1, The Small Boy (hayyeled haqqaton), in simple Biblical Hebrew with pictures (3:24); listen for ha- the.

KEY TERMS

article

The word "the." In Hebrew it is הַ plus a doubled first letter: הַיּוֹם hay-yom, the day.

הְ / הָ

Before a guttural that cannot double, the article lengthens: הָאָרֶץ the earth, הָעִיר the city.

definite

Pointing to a known thing: "the day." Without the article a noun means "a day" or just "day."

VOCABULARY FOR THE WEEK

Hebrew reads from right to left. Capitals show the stressed syllable, usually the last one. kh is the throaty ch of Bach; a is ah, e is eh, ee is the i of machine, o is oh, oo is the oo of food, and uh is the quick sound of the shewa.

הַשָּׁמַיִם *hashshamayim* **hahsh-shah-MAH-yim** noun with the article the heaven, the heavens	הָאָרֶץ *ha'arets* **hah-AH-rets** noun with the article the earth, the land
הַמֶּלֶךְ *hammelekh* **hahm-MEH-lekh** noun with the article the king	הָאִישׁ *ha'ish* **hah-EESH** noun with the article the man

CORE IDEAS

The story. The Bible begins: In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth. Not "a heaven" and "an earth," but the heaven and the earth: everything there is. God made all of it, out of nothing, by His word.

How Hebrew works. Hebrew has no word for "a." יוֹם means "a day." To say "the," put הַ on the front and double the next letter: הַיּוֹם hay-yom, הַמֶּלֶךְ ham-me-lekh (the king), הַשָּׁמַיִם hash-sha-ma-yim (the heavens).

Before gutturals. א ה ח ע ר cannot double, so the article lengthens its vowel: הָאָרֶץ ha-a-rets, הָעִיר ha-ir, הָרֹאשׁ ha-rosh. Sometimes it is הֶ: הֶחָכָם he-cha-kham, the wise man.

PICTURE STUDY



Among the Sierra Nevada, California, Albert Bierstadt, 1868 · Oil on canvas · Smithsonian American Art Museum, Washington, D.C.

Image: Wikimedia Commons, public domain

Albert Bierstadt, born in Germany and raised in Massachusetts, travelled west with survey parties and painted the mountains of America as if seeing the morning of creation. He painted this huge canvas in Rome from sketches he had made in the West.

Look closely

- Find the heaven and the earth in this painting.
- Where is the light coming from?
- Find the deer.
- What does the lake reflect?

Talk about it

1. Why might a painter make the mountains look so grand?
2. How does this picture help you read “the heaven and the earth”?

ACTIVITY

“The” labels

Label things around the house in Hebrew, with and without the article.

You will need

- Sticky notes
- A marker

Steps

1. Write pairs on notes: דֶּלֶת / הַדֶּלֶת (a door / the door), סֵפֶר / הַסֵּפֶר (a book / the book), לֶחֶם / הַלֶּחֶם (bread / the bread).
2. Stick the “the” note on a real door, book and loaf.
3. Read them aloud and point.

Tips

- Remember the doubling dot after ha-.

Check your work

☐ I made three pairs.

☐ I can say why each ha- word has a dot in the next letter.

HEBREW NOTEBOOK

1. Copy יוֹם / הַיּוֹם, מֶלֶךְ / הַמֶּלֶךְ, אֶרֶץ / הָאָרֶץ, עִיר / הָעִיר with their meanings.

> **From history.** Genesis 1:1 has seven Hebrew words and 28 letters (7 × 4). Seven is the number of the days of creation and of completeness.

WORKED EXAMPLES

Example 1. Translate: הַשָּׁמַיִם

▼ **Show solution**

1. ה + doubled shin: the article.
2. shamayim: heavens.

Answer: the heavens (KJV: the heaven).

Example 2. Add the article to אִישׁ

▼ **Show solution**

1. Alef is a guttural; it cannot double.
2. The article lengthens to הָ.

Answer: הָאִישׁ, ha-ish: the man.

PRACTICE

1. Easy Translate: הַיּוֹם

   ▼ **Show answer**

   the day (or today).

2. Easy Translate: הַמֶּלֶךְ

   ▼ **Show answer**

   the king.

3. Easy How do you say “a” in Hebrew?

   ▼ **Show answer**

   You don’t: a noun without the article means “a.”

4. Medium Add “the” to עִיר

   ▼ **Show answer**

   הָעִיר.

5. Medium Why is there a dot in the shin of הַשָּׁמַיִם?

   ▼ **Show answer**

   The article doubles the next letter.

6. Hard Say Genesis 1:1 in English and point to each Hebrew word.

   ▼ **Show answer**

   In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth.

COMMON MISTAKES

- Translating הַ as a separate word in Hebrew writing. It is always joined to the noun.
- Forgetting the lengthened vowel before a guttural.

> **Make it a game · The or a?.** The parent says English phrases: “a king,” “the king,” “the earth,” “a day.” Write each in Hebrew on a whiteboard; a point for every correct article (and dagesh).

> **Scripture.** “In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth.” (Genesis 1:1, KJV)
>
> Hebrew (Westminster Leningrad Codex, vowel points shown, cantillation marks left out):
>
> בְּרֵאשִׁית בָּרָא אֱלֹהִים אֵת הַשָּׁמַיִם וְאֵת הָאָרֶץ׃
>
> Find the two articles: hashshamayim (the heaven) and ha’arets (the earth). Notice the doubled shin and the qamets before the alef.

UNIT 1 · THE AND AND · LESSON 1.2 OF 10 · 3 SESSIONS OF 30–40 MINUTES

1.2 And: Ve-

OBJECTIVES

- Find וְ and translate it “and.”
- Read its other spellings וּ and וָ.
- Read Genesis 8:22.

> **Warm-up.** Make a chain of “and”s: bread and butter and jam and milk … How long can you go? Hebrew loves “and,” and like “the,” it glues “and” to the front of the next word.

WATCH

Easy Story 9 - Yosef & His Wife & Their House - יוֹסֵף וְאִשְׁתּוֹ וּבֵיתָם

Aleph with Beth · 2:55

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wcaoSZwiSkc

> **WHEN TO WATCH**
> after the core reading; hold up a finger at each “and.”

Note: Aleph with Beth’s Easy Story 9, Yosef and His Wife and Their House (yosef ve’ishto uveitam), in simple Biblical Hebrew (2:55); listen for every ve- and u-.

BACKUP VIDEO

Easy Story 4 - Avram, Beth, & the Two Jars - אַבְרָם וּבֵת וּשְׁנֵי הַכַּדִּים

Aleph with Beth · 2:21

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=t88kj5O1Gnc

Aleph with Beth’s Easy Story 4, Avram, Beth and the Two Jars, in simple Biblical Hebrew (2:21).

KEY TERMS

conjunction

A joining word. Hebrew “and” is וְ ve-, joined to the front of the next word.

וְ ve-

In pairs, before a stressed syllable: וְלַיְלָה va-lay-lah (and night).

וּ u-

Before ב מ פ and before a shewa, ve- becomes u-: וּבֵין u-vein (and between), וּמֶלֶךְ u-melekh.

VOCABULARY FOR THE WEEK

Hebrew reads from right to left. Capitals show the stressed syllable, usually the last one. kh is the throaty ch of Bach; a is ah, e is eh, ee is the i of machine, o is oh, oo is the oo of food, and uh is the quick sound of the shewa.

קָצִיר

qatsir

kah-TSEER

noun

harvest

קַיִץ

qayits

KAH-yits

noun

summer

חֹרֶף

choref

KHOH-ref

noun

winter

לַיְלָה

laylah

LAI-lah

noun

night

CORE IDEAS

The story. After the flood, Noah built an altar and God made a promise: While the earth remaineth, seedtime and harvest, and cold and heat, and summer and winter, and day and night shall not cease. Every sunrise and every harvest since is a sign that God keeps His word.

How Hebrew works. "And" is וְ ve-, glued to the next word: וְהָאָרֶץ ve-ha-a-rets (and the earth), וְקָצִיר ve-qa-tsir (and harvest). Before the lip letters ב מ פ or a shewa it becomes וּ u-. In tight pairs it can be וָ va-: וְיוֹם וָלַיְלָה ve-yom va-lay-lah.

Watch for it. Biblical Hebrew begins sentence after sentence with "and." The KJV often keeps it (And God said ...), which is why the English Bible sounds the way it does. וַ with a doubled letter after it (וַיֹּאמֶר, and he said) is a special story form you will meet in Grade 7.

ACTIVITY

Seasons wheel

Make a wheel of the pairs in Genesis 8:22.

You will need

- A paper plate
- Markers
- A brad fastener and a paper arrow

Steps

1. Divide the plate into four parts: זֶרַע וְקָצִיר (seedtime and harvest), קֹר וָחֹם (cold and heat), קַיִץ וָחֹרֶף (summer and winter), יוֹם וָלָיְלָה (day and night).
2. Draw a picture in each part.
3. Spin the arrow and read the pair it lands on.

Tips

- Circle each “and” and say which spelling it uses.

Check your work

☐ My wheel has all four pairs.

☐ I read each “and” correctly.

HEBREW NOTEBOOK

1. Copy the four pairs of Genesis 8:22. Circle each ve-, u- or va-.

> **From history.** Genesis 1 alone has about 100 “and”s in Hebrew. Old storytellers used “and” the way we use paragraphs.

WORKED EXAMPLES

Example 1. Translate: וְקֹר וָחֹם

▼ **Show solution**

1. ve- + qor: and cold.
2. va- + chom: and heat.

Answer: and cold and heat.

Example 2. Why is it וּבֵין and not וּבֵין?

▼ **Show solution**

1. Bet is a lip letter (ב מ פ).
2. Before these, ve- becomes u-.

Answer: u-vein, and between.

PRACTICE

1. Easy Translate: וְיוֹם

   ▼ **Show answer**

   and day.

2. Easy Translate: וְהָאָרֶץ

   ▼ **Show answer**

   and the earth.

3. Easy What are the three spellings of “and”?

   ▼ **Show answer**

   וְ, וּ, וַ.

4. Medium Add “and” to מֶלֶךְ

   ▼ **Show answer**

   וּמֶלֶךְ (u-melekh).

5. Medium Translate: זֶרַע וְקָצִיר

▼ **Show answer**

seedtime (seed) and harvest.

6. Hard Say Genesis 8:22 in English.

▼ **Show answer**

While the earth remaineth, seedtime and harvest, and cold and heat, and summer and winter, and day and night shall not cease.

COMMON MISTAKES

- Reading וּ as a vav consonant (vu-). It is just u.
- Leaving ve- off the translation: every one means “and.”

> **Make it a game · And-chain.** Each player in turn adds a Hebrew word to a growing chain with the right “and”: אוֹר וְחֹשֶׁךְ וּמַיִם וְאֶרֶץ … Forget a word or use the wrong “and,” and you are out.

> **Scripture.** “While the earth remaineth, seedtime and harvest, and cold and heat, and summer and winter, and day and night shall not cease.” (Genesis 8:22, KJV)
>
> Hebrew (Westminster Leningrad Codex, vowel points shown, cantillation marks left out):
>
> זֶרַע וְקָצִיר וְקֹר וָחֹם וְקַיִץ וָחֹרֶף וְיוֹם וָלָיְלָה
>
> Count the “and”s: ve-qatsir, ve-qor, va-chom, ve-qayits, va-choref, ve-yom, va-laylah. Seven!

UNIT 2

He and She, One and Many

Lesson 2.1 teaches masculine and feminine nouns (ה and ת endings), with Genesis 1:27.

Lesson 2.2 teaches the plurals ־ִים and ־וֹת and the pair ending ־ַיִם, with Psalm 147:4 and Church’s Twilight in the Wilderness.

PREREQUISITES

- Unit 1.

MASTERY CHECKLIST

- ☐ I can tell a masculine noun from a feminine one by its ending.
- ☐ I can make and read -im and -ot plurals.
- ☐ I can read the pair ending -ayim.

LESSONS IN THIS UNIT

2.1	**Masculine and Feminine**	3 sessions of 30–40 minutes
2.2	**Plurals: -im, -ot and -ayim**	3 sessions of 30–40 minutes

Unit 2 review

The student writes or answers aloud. The test is worth 20 points.

1. **5 pts**
   Masculine or feminine? בַּת תּוֹרָה סוּס
2. **5 pts**
   Make plural: סוּס and תּוֹרָה
3. **5 pts**
   Translate: כּוֹכָבִים and עֵינַיִם
4. **5 pts**
   Say Genesis 1:27 in English.

ANSWER KEY

1. masculine; feminine (-ah); feminine (-t).
2. סוּסִים (horses), תּוֹרוֹת (laws).
3. stars; (two) eyes.
4. So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them.

Printable answer key (PDF, for the parent)

UNIT CHALLENGE: ONE-AND-MANY CHART

Make a chart with four columns: masculine one, masculine many, feminine one, feminine many. Fill it with eight Bible words from this unit, illustrated, and add a box for three pair words ending -ayim.

LOOK FOR	WHAT IT MEANS
Reading	The student reads every word.
Grammar	The endings are correct and explained.
Translation	Each word is translated.
Care	Hebrew is written right to left with every vowel and mark in place.

UNIT 2 · HE AND SHE, ONE AND MANY · LESSON 2.1 OF 10 · 3 SESSIONS OF 30–40 MINUTES

2.1 Masculine and Feminine

OBJECTIVES

- Tell masculine from feminine nouns.
- Find the feminine endings תָ and ת.
- Read Genesis 1:27.

Warm-up. Name pairs: king and queen, brother and sister, man and woman. English changes the word. Hebrew usually changes the ending.

WATCH

Genesis 1:27

Daily Dose of Hebrew · 2:13

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fAuo9bBrfJc

> **WHEN TO WATCH**
> after the core reading; follow the verse, then the story.

Note: Daily Dose of Hebrew: a seminary professor reads Genesis 1:27 in Hebrew and explains it; this one is for the parent.

BACKUP VIDEO

Easy Story 27 - The man and his wife in Eden - הָאָדָם וְאִשְׁתּוֹ בְּגַן־עֵדֶן

Aleph with Beth · 3:20

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4Gt_jL41vzQ

Aleph with Beth's Easy Story 27, The Man and His Wife in Eden, in simple Biblical Hebrew (3:20); listen for ish and ishah.

KEY TERMS

masculine

Most nouns with no special ending: סוּס horse, מֶלֶךְ king, יוֹם day.

feminine

Most nouns ending in תָ or ת: מַלְכָּה queen, תּוֹרָה law, בַּת daughter.

זָכָר וּנְקֵבָה zakhar u-neqevah

Male and female.

VOCABULARY FOR THE WEEK

Hebrew reads from right to left. Capitals show the stressed syllable, usually the last one. kh is the throaty ch of Bach; a is ah, e is eh, ee is the i of machine, o is oh, oo is the oo of food, and uh is the quick sound of the shewa.

אִשָּׁה *ishah* **ee-SHAH** noun, feminine woman, wife	זָכָר *zakhar* **zah-KHAHR** noun male
נְקֵבָה *neqevah* **neh-kay-VAH** noun, feminine female	בַּת *bat* **BAHT** noun, feminine daughter

CORE IDEAS

The story. On the sixth day God made man in His own image: male and female created he them. God made two kinds of people, men and women, both in His image and both very good. He brought the woman to the man, and Adam called her ishah, woman, because she was taken out of ish, man (Genesis 2:23).

How Hebrew works. Every Hebrew noun is masculine or feminine, even things like "day" or "law." Most feminine nouns end in הָ-ah or ת -t: אִשָּׁה ishah (woman), תּוֹרָה torah, בַּת bat (daughter). Most nouns without these endings are masculine: אִישׁ ish, בֵּן ben, סוּס sus.

A few surprises. Some feminine words have no ending: אֶרֶץ earth, עִיר city, and body parts in pairs, like the eye. You learn these one by one.

ACTIVITY

Pairs match

Make matching cards for masculine and feminine pairs.

You will need

- Index cards
- Markers

Steps

1. Write pairs on separate cards: אִישׁ / אִשָּׁה (man / woman), מֶלֶךְ / מַלְכָּה (king / queen), בֵּן / בַּת (son / daughter), סוּס / סוּסָה (horse / mare).
2. Shuffle them face down and play memory.
3. Read each card aloud as you turn it.

Tips

- Look for the הָ or ת ending.

Check your work

☐ I matched all four pairs.

☐ I can say which card of each pair is feminine.

HEBREW NOTEBOOK

1. Copy the four pairs. Underline each feminine ending.

> **From history.** Hebrew verbs and adjectives also change for masculine and feminine, so even “you” is different when you speak to a man (attah) or to a woman (at).

WORKED EXAMPLES

Example 1. Masculine or feminine? תּוֹרָה

▼ **Show solution**

1. It ends in ה.
2. Most nouns in -ah are feminine.

Answer: Feminine: torah, law, teaching.

Example 2. Masculine or feminine? אֶרֶץ

▼ **Show solution**

1. No feminine ending.
2. But it is one of the surprises.

Answer: Feminine: earth is a feminine word in Hebrew.

PRACTICE

1. Easy Translate: אִשָּׁה

   ▼ **Show answer**

   woman, wife.

2. Easy Masculine or feminine? בֵּן

   ▼ **Show answer**

   masculine.

3. Easy Masculine or feminine? מַלְכָּה

   ▼ **Show answer**

   feminine.

4. Medium Translate: זָכָר וּנְקֵבָה

   ▼ **Show answer**

   male and female.

5. **Medium** Name two feminine nouns with no ending.

   ▼ **Show answer**

   אֶרֶץ (earth), עִיר (city).

6. **Hard** Say Genesis 1:27 in English.

   ▼ **Show answer**

   So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them.

COMMON MISTAKES

- Thinking “masculine” means the thing is a boy. It is just the word’s class: a day is masculine and a law is feminine.
- Missing the surprise feminines.

> **Make it a game · He or she?.** The parent shows a Hebrew noun; players shout “hu!” (he) for masculine or “hi!” (she) for feminine. A point for each right answer, two for a surprise feminine.

> **Scripture.** “So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them.” (Genesis 1:27, KJV)
>
> Hebrew (Westminster Leningrad Codex, vowel points shown, cantillation marks left out):
>
> זָכָר וּנְקֵבָה בָּרָא אֹתָם
>
> Find zakhar u-neqevah, male and female, at the end. Find betsalmo, in his image. Read ha’adam, the man, with the article.

2.2 Plurals: -im, -ot and -ayim

OBJECTIVES

- Make masculine plurals with ־ִים and feminine with ־וֹת.
- Read the pair ending ־ַיִם.

- Read Psalm 147:4.

> **Warm-up.** On a clear night, how many stars can you count? God counts them all and names every one.

WATCH

Genesis 1:16

Daily Dose of Hebrew · 2:15

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ig-wY3BwSJE

> **WHEN TO WATCH**
> after the core reading; in the Genesis 1:16 video listen for hakkokhavim, the stars.

Note: Daily Dose of Hebrew: a seminary professor reads Genesis 1:16 in Hebrew and explains it; this one is for the parent.

BACKUP VIDEO

Easy Story 7 - The Twelve Spies - שְׁנֵי עָשָׂר הַמְּרַגְּלִים

Aleph with Beth · 3:52

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cm4uRuW9fl4

Aleph with Beth's Easy Story 7, The Twelve Spies (shenei asar hattarim), in simple Biblical Hebrew (3:52); listen for -im plurals.

KEY TERMS

masculine plural ־ִים

סוּס → סוּסִים horses; כּוֹכָב → כּוֹכָבִים stars.

feminine plural ־וֹת

תּוֹרָה → תּוֹרוֹת laws; בַּת → בָּנוֹת daughters.

dual ־ַיִם

For pairs: עֵינַיִם two eyes, יָדַיִם two hands, רַגְלַיִם two feet.

VOCABULARY FOR THE WEEK

Hebrew reads from right to left. Capitals show the stressed syllable, usually the last one. kh is the throaty ch of Bach; a is ah, e is eh, ee is the i of machine, o is oh, oo is the oo of food, and uh is the quick sound of the shewa.

כּוֹכָבִים

kokhavim

koh-khah-VEEM

noun, plural

stars

שֵׁמוֹת

shemot

shay-MOHT

noun, plural

names

יָמִים

yamim

yah-MEEM

noun, plural

days

עֵינַיִם

einayim

ay-NAH-yim

noun, dual

(two) eyes

CORE IDEAS

The story. Psalm 147 says: He telleth the number of the stars; he calleth them all by their names. Astronomers today guess there are more stars than grains of sand on all the beaches of the world. God knows every one, and the same psalm says, He healeth the broken in heart (verse 3). The God who names the stars knows each of His children.

How Hebrew works. Masculine plural: add ־ִים -im. Feminine plural: change ־ָה to ־וֹת -ot. The vowels inside the word often shift: דָּבָר davar → דְּבָרִים devarim (words).

Surprises and pairs. Some masculine words take -ot: שֵׁם name → שֵׁמוֹת names (in Psalm 147:4!), אָב → אָבוֹת fathers. Things that come in pairs take -ayim: עֵינַיִם, אָזְנַיִם. שָׁמַיִם and מַיִם look like pairs but just mean heaven and water.

PICTURE STUDY



Twilight in the Wilderness, Frederic Edwin Church, 1860 · Oil on canvas · Cleveland Museum of Art

Image: Wikimedia Commons, public domain

Frederic Church painted this the year before the Civil War, when many Americans felt a storm coming. The sky blazes just before dark; in a few minutes the first stars will come out over the wilderness.

Look closely

- What colors are in the sky?
- Find the river.
- Find the little bird.
- What will appear in this sky soon?

Talk about it

1. How does this sky make you feel?
2. Why does Psalm 147 put the stars and the broken-hearted side by side?

ACTIVITY

Star chart

Make a star chart of Hebrew plurals.

You will need

- Dark blue paper
- Star stickers or a white crayon
- A silver pen

Steps

1. Put a star at the top: כּוֹכָב (a star). Under it make a cluster: כּוֹכָבִים (stars).
2. Add more pairs: שֵׁם / שֵׁמוֹת, תּוֹרָה / תּוֹרוֹת, סוּס / סוּסִים.
3. Read each pair aloud.

Tips

- Watch the -im and -ot endings.

Check your work

☐ My chart has four pairs.

☐ I can find the surprise plural.

HEBREW NOTEBOOK

1. Write five masculine and three feminine nouns with their plurals. Add three -ayim words.

> **From history.** The second book of the Bible is called Shemot, “Names,” in Hebrew, from its first words: These are the names (Exodus 1:1).

WORKED EXAMPLES

Example 1. Make plural: כּוֹכָב

▼ **Show solution**

1. Masculine: add -im.
2. kokhav + im.

Answer: כּוֹכָבִים kokhavim (stars).

Example 2. Translate: שֵׁמוֹת

▼ **Show solution**

1. shem = name.
2. Masculine, but its plural takes -ot.

Answer: names.

PRACTICE

1. Easy Make plural: סוּס

   ▼ **Show answer**

   סוּסִים.

2. Easy Translate: יָמִים

   ▼ **Show answer**

   days.

3. Easy What ending is for pairs?

   ▼ **Show answer**

   ־ַיִם -ayim.

4. Medium Make plural: תּוֹרָה

   ▼ **Show answer**

   תּוֹרוֹת.

5. Medium Translate: רַגְלַיִם

   ▼ **Show answer**

   (two) feet.

6. Hard Say Psalm 147:4 in English.

   ▼ **Show answer**

   He telleth the number of the stars; he calleth them all by their names.

COMMON MISTAKES

- Thinking every -ot word is feminine. Shemot (names) and avot (fathers) are masculine.
- Reading שָׁמַיִם as "two heavens." It just means heaven.

> **Make it a game · Plural snap.** Deal singular and plural cards. Turn them over one by one; when a singular and its plural are face up together, slap and say both. The fastest slapper keeps the cards.

> **Scripture.** "He telleth the number of the stars; he calleth them all by their names." (Psalm 147:4, KJV)
>
> Hebrew (Westminster Leningrad Codex, vowel points shown, cantillation marks left out):
>
> מוֹנֶה מִסְפָּר לַכּוֹכָבִים לְכֻלָּם שֵׁמוֹת יִקְרָא׃
>
> Find lakkokhavim, to the stars (-im plural), and shemot, names (-ot plural on a masculine word).

UNIT 3

Little Words of Place

Lesson 3.1 teaches בְּ, לְ, כְּ and how they swallow the article (בַּ = in the), with Psalm 23:6.

Lesson 3.2 teaches מִן, אֶל, עַל, עִם, with Genesis 2:7 and the Siloam inscription.

PREREQUISITES

- Units 1–2.

MASTERY CHECKLIST

- ☐ I can translate be-, le-, ke- and min.
- ☐ I can read בְּ, לְ, כְּ as "in the, to the, like the."
- ☐ I can translate el, al and im.

LESSONS IN THIS UNIT

3.1	**In, To, Like: Be-, Le-, Ke-**	3 sessions of 30–40 minutes
3.2	**From, Unto, Upon, With**	3 sessions of 30–40 minutes

Unit 3 review

The student writes or answers aloud. The test is worth 20 points.

1. **5 pts**
   Translate: לְעוֹלָם בְּבֵית
2. **5 pts**
   Translate: בַּשָּׁמַיִם
3. **5 pts**
   Translate: מִן־הָאֲדָמָה and עַל־הָאָרֶץ
4. **5 pts**
   Say Psalm 23:6 in English.

ANSWER KEY

1. in the house (of); for ever.
2. in the heavens (be- + ha- = ba-).
3. from the ground; upon the earth.
4. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the LORD for ever.

Printable answer key (PDF, for the parent)

UNIT CHALLENGE: PREPOSITION PICTURE MAP

Draw a house, a tree, a river and a road. Label places with Hebrew phrases: בַּבַּיִת (in the house), עַל־הָעֵץ (upon the tree), אֶל־הָעִיר (to the city), מִן־הַנָּהָר (from the river), עִם (with) a friend. Read the map aloud as a story.

LOOK FOR	WHAT IT MEANS
Reading	The student reads every label.
Grammar	Each preposition is used correctly.
Translation	The labels are translated.
Care	Hebrew is written right to left with every vowel and mark in place.

UNIT 3 · LITTLE WORDS OF PLACE · LESSON 3.1 OF 10 · 3 SESSIONS OF 30–40 MINUTES

3.1 In, To, Like: Be-, Le-, Ke-

OBJECTIVES

- Translate בְּ, לְ, כְּ.
- Read the merged forms בְּ, לְ, כְּ.
- Read Psalm 23:6.

Warm-up. Put a pencil in a cup, give it to someone, then hold up something like it. In, to, like: three little words. In Hebrew each is just one letter, glued to the front.

WATCH

Easy Story 45.1 - מֹשֶׁה בִּיְאֹר - Moses on the Nile

Aleph with Beth · 3:24

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MB7_m-yQqno

> **WHEN TO WATCH**
> after the core reading; hold up a cup each time you hear “in.”

Note: Aleph with Beth’s Easy Story 45.1, Moses on the Nile (moshe bayy’or), in simple Biblical Hebrew (3:24); listen for ba- in the.

BACKUP VIDEO

Easy Story 6 - Moses in the Land of Midian - מֹשֶׁה בְּאֶרֶץ מִדְיָן

Aleph with Beth · 2:15

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4deMzVZzN4E

Aleph with Beth’s Easy Story 6, Moses in the Land of Midian (moshe b’erets midyan), in simple Biblical Hebrew (2:15); here the bet has no dot, so be- is said ve-.

KEY TERMS

inseparable prepositions

בְּ in, by, with; לְ to, for; כְּ like, as. They are joined to the next word.

merged with the article

be + ha = בַּ ba- (in the); le + ha = לַ; ke + ha = כַּ. The he drops out but leaves its vowel and dagesh.

לְעוֹלָם le‘olam

For ever (literally, to eternity).

VOCABULARY FOR THE WEEK

Hebrew reads from right to left. Capitals show the stressed syllable, usually the last one. kh is the throaty ch of Bach; a is ah, e is eh, ee is the i of machine, o is oh, oo is the oo of food, and uh is the quick sound of the shewa.

בְּבֵית

beveit

beh-VAYT

preposition + noun

in the house of

לְעוֹלָם

le'olam

leh-oh-LAHM

preposition + noun

for ever

תֵּבָה

tevah

tay-VAH

noun, feminine

ark (Noah's, and the basket of baby Moses)

בַּיִת

bayit

BAH-yit

noun

house

CORE IDEAS

The story. Psalm 23 ends: Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the LORD for ever. A shepherd follows his sheep to bring them home; David says God's goodness and mercy chase after him, and at the end he will be home in God's house for ever.

How Hebrew works. Three prepositions are single letters joined to the next word: בְּבֵית be-veit (in the house of), לְאֹרֶךְ le-o-rekh (for the length of), כְּרַחֵם ke-ra-chem (like as … pitieth).

With the article. "In the house" would be be + ha + bayit, but the he drops out: בַּבַּיִת bab-ba-yit. The ba- tells you "the" is hiding inside: בַּשָּׁמַיִם in the heavens, לַכּוֹכָבִים to the stars (Psalm 147:4).

ACTIVITY

In-to-like box

Act out the prepositions with a box and small toys.

You will need

- A shoebox
- Three small toys
- Cards with בְּ, לְ, כְּ

Steps

1. Draw a card.
2. For בְּ put a toy in the box; for לְ give a toy to someone; for כְּ find two toys alike.
3. Say a Hebrew phrase each time: בַּתֵּבָה (in the ark), לְנֹחַ (to Noah), כְּאַרְיֵה (like a lion).

Tips

- Watch for ba-, la-, ka- meaning “the” is inside.

Check your work

☐ I acted out all three.

☐ I said a Hebrew phrase for each.

HEBREW NOTEBOOK

1. Copy בְּבֵית, לְעוֹלָם, כִּרְחֵם, בַּשָּׁמַיִם and translate them.

> **From history.** The KJV has “for ever” where the Hebrew says le’orekh yamim, “for length of days.” Translators chose the meaning, not the word-for-word form.

WORKED EXAMPLES

Example 1. Translate: בְּבֵית־יְהוָה

▼ **Show solution**

1. be- = in.
2. beit = house of; the Name = the LORD (say Adonai).

Answer: in the house of the LORD.

Example 2. Translate: בַּתֵּבָה

▼ **Show solution**

1. ba- = be + ha: in the.
2. tevah = ark.

Answer: in the ark.

PRACTICE

1. Easy Translate: בְּ

   ▼ **Show answer**

   in, by, with.

2. Easy Translate: לְ

   ▼ **Show answer**

   to, for.

3. Easy Translate: כְּ

   ▼ **Show answer**

   like, as.

4. Medium Translate: בַּבַּיִת

   ▼ **Show answer**

   in the house.

5. Medium Translate: לְעוֹלָם

▼ **Show answer**

for ever.

6. Hard Say Psalm 23:6 in English.

▼ **Show answer**

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the LORD for ever.

COMMON MISTAKES

- Missing the hidden “the” in ba-, la-, ka-.
- Confusing כְּ (like) with the word כֹּל (all).

> **Make it a game · Where is it?.** Hide a toy. Players ask in Hebrew: בַּבַּיִת? (in the house?) עַל־הַשֻּׁלְחָן? (upon the table?) The hider answers כֵּן (yes) or לֹא (no).

> **Scripture.** “Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the LORD for ever.” (Psalm 23:6, KJV)
>
> Hebrew (Westminster Leningrad Codex, vowel points shown, cantillation marks left out):
>
> וְשַׁבְתִּי בְּבֵית־יְהוָה לְאֹרֶךְ יָמִים
>
> Find beveit-Adonai, in the house of the LORD, and le’orekh yamim, for length of days (KJV: for ever). Two inseparable prepositions!

UNIT 3 · LITTLE WORDS OF PLACE · LESSON 3.2 OF 10 · 3 SESSIONS OF 30–40 MINUTES

3.2 From, Unto, Upon, With

OBJECTIVES

- Translate מִן, אֶל, עַל, עִם.
- Read מִ with a doubled letter as “from.”
- Read Genesis 2:7.

> **Warm-up.** Stand up and act: walk from the door, unto the window, put your hand upon the table, stand with a friend. Four words of place, each its own little word in Hebrew.

WATCH

Genesis 2:7

Daily Dose of Hebrew · 2:05

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zHfFyDgbgLU

> **WHEN TO WATCH**
> after the core reading; follow Genesis 2:7 and point at min-ha'adamah.

Note: Daily Dose of Hebrew: a seminary professor reads Genesis 2:7 in Hebrew and explains it; this one is for the parent.

BACKUP VIDEO

Easy Story 24 - יַעֲקֹב נָס מִפְּנֵי עֵשָׂו - Jacob Flees from Esau ¯ Lesson 89b

Aleph with Beth · 5:21

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CxEDoPidyW0

Aleph with Beth's Easy Story 24, Jacob Flees from Esau (ya'aqov nas mippenei esav), in simple Biblical Hebrew (5:21); listen for min and mi-.

KEY TERMS

מִן min

From, out of. Often shortened to מִ with a doubled letter: מִמִּצְרַיִם mim-mits-ra-yim, from Egypt.

עִם im

With, together with.

אֶל el / עַל al

Unto, toward / upon, over, about.

VOCABULARY FOR THE WEEK

Hebrew reads from right to left. Capitals show the stressed syllable, usually the last one. kh is the throaty ch of Bach; a is ah, e is eh, ee is the i of machine, o is oh, oo is the oo of food, and uh is the quick sound of the shewa.

מִן

min

MEEN

preposition

from, out of

עַל

al

AHL

preposition

upon, over

עִם

im

EEM

preposition

with

אֲדָמָה

adamah

ah-dah-MAH

noun, feminine

ground, soil

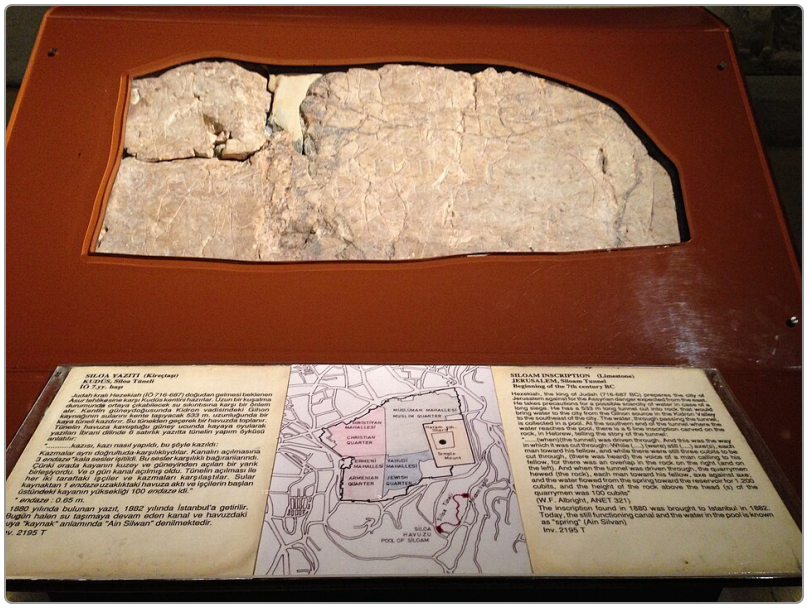
CORE IDEAS

The story. And the LORD God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul. God shaped Adam like a potter shapes clay, and gave him life with His own breath. Man, adam, is made from the ground, adamah.

How Hebrew works. מִן from is often joined by a maqqef: מִן־הָאֲדָמָה from the ground. Or it shrinks to מִ and doubles the next letter. אֶל unto: אֶל־נֹחַ unto Noah. עַל upon: עַל־הָאָרֶץ upon the earth. עִם with: עִמְּדִי with me (Psalm 23:4).

A real inscription. About 700 B.C., King Hezekiah's workers dug a tunnel under Jerusalem to bring water inside the walls (2 Kings 20:20). Where the two teams met, they carved an inscription in old Hebrew letters: the workers struck "each man toward his fellow," using the same little word el.

PICTURE STUDY



The Siloam Inscription, Workers of King Hezekiah, about 700 B.C. · Limestone, carved · Istanbul Archaeology Museums

Image: Wikimedia Commons, public domain

The inscription was found in 1880 by boys exploring Hezekiah's tunnel in Jerusalem. It was cut out of the wall and taken to Istanbul, then capital of the Ottoman Empire, where it is still kept. It is written in the old Hebrew alphabet used before the square letters of our Bibles.

Look closely

- Can you see the rows of letters on the stone?
- Find the map. Where is the Pool of Siloam?
- Why is the stone cracked?
- Read the English label: what did the tunnel bring?

Talk about it

1. Why would workers carve a message where nobody could see it?
2. How does a stone like this help us trust the Bible's history?

ACTIVITY

Map of motion

Draw arrows on a map with Hebrew prepositions.

You will need

- Paper
- Colored pencils

Steps

1. Draw Eden, a river and a city.
2. Draw arrows and label them: מִן (from), אֶל (unto), עַל (upon), עִם (with).
3. Write a short phrase on each arrow, e.g. מִן־הָאֲדָמָה, אֶל־הָעִיר.

Tips

- Joined phrases need a maqqef.

Check your work

☐ My map has four arrows.

☐ I read each phrase aloud.

HEBREW NOTEBOOK

1. Copy מִן־הָאֲדָמָה, אֶל־נַחַל, עַל־הָאָרֶץ, עִמָּדִי and translate them.

> **From history.** The Siloam tunnel still carries water today. Visitors can wade through its 533 meters (about a third of a mile) to the Pool of Siloam, where Jesus sent a blind man to wash (John 9:7).

WORKED EXAMPLES

Example 1. Translate: מִן־הָאֲדָמָה

▼ **Show solution**

1. min = from.
2. ha’adamah = the ground (article with qamets before alef).

Answer: from (of) the ground.

Example 2. Translate: מִמִּצְרַיִם

▼ **Show solution**

1. mi + doubled mem: from.
2. mitsrayim = Egypt.

Answer: from Egypt.

PRACTICE

1. Easy Translate: עִם

   ▼ **Show answer**

   with.

2. Easy Translate: עַל

   ▼ **Show answer**

   upon, over.

3. Easy Translate: אֶל

   ▼ **Show answer**

   unto, toward.

4. Medium Translate: עַל־הָאָרֶץ

   ▼ **Show answer**

   upon the earth.

5. Medium What is the link between adam and adamah?

   ▼ **Show answer**

   Man (adam) was formed from the ground (adamah).

6. Hard Say Genesis 2:7 in English.

   ▼ **Show answer**

   And the LORD God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul.

COMMON MISTAKES

- Mixing אֶל (unto) and עַל (upon). They look alike; one starts with alef, the other with ayin.
- Missing the shortened mi- with its doubled letter.

> **Make it a game · Simon says (in Hebrew).** The leader gives commands with prepositions: hand עַל your head; walk אֶל the door; step מִן the rug; stand עִם a friend. Only follow if the leader says אָמַר (he said) first.

> **Scripture.** “And the LORD God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul.” (Genesis 2:7, KJV)
>
> Hebrew (Westminster Leningrad Codex, vowel points shown, cantillation marks left out):
>
> אֶת־הָאָדָם עָפָר מִן־הָאֲדָמָה
>
> Find afar min-ha’adamah, dust from the ground. Then find nishmat chayyim, the breath of life. LORD God is the holy Name with Elohim; say Adonai Elohim.

UNIT 4

The Words of Genesis 1

Lesson 4.1 teaches the nouns of creation (heaven, earth, water, light, darkness, day, night, seas) with Genesis 1:10.

Lesson 4.2 reads and explains every word of Genesis 1:1, with a carpet page from the Leningrad Codex.

PREREQUISITES

- Units 1–3.

MASTERY CHECKLIST

- ☐ I can name ten things from Genesis 1 in Hebrew.
- ☐ I can translate Genesis 1:1 word by word.
- ☐ I can find the article, ve- and prepositions in Genesis 1.

LESSONS IN THIS UNIT

4.1	**The Nouns of Creation**	3 sessions of 30–40 minutes
4.2	**Every Word of Genesis 1:1**	3 sessions of 30–40 minutes

Unit 4 review

The student writes or answers aloud. The test is worth 20 points.

1. **5 pts**
   Write in Hebrew: light, darkness, day, night, water.

2. **5 pts**
   Translate: וַיִּקְרָא אֱלֹהִים לַיַּבָּשָׁה אֶרֶץ

3. **5 pts**
   Translate Genesis 1:1 word by word.

4. **5 pts**
   What is the Leningrad Codex?

ANSWER KEY

1. אוֹר, חֹשֶׁךְ, יוֹם, לַיְלָה, מַיִם.
2. And God called the dry land Earth.
3. bereshit in the beginning, bara created, Elohim God, et (marks the object), hashshamayim the heaven, ve'et and, ha'arets the earth.
4. The oldest complete manuscript of the Hebrew Bible, copied about A.D. 1008.

Printable answer key (PDF, for the parent)

UNIT CHALLENGE: CREATION WEEK POSTER

Make a seven-panel poster of the creation week. In each panel draw what God made that day and label it in Hebrew (אוֹר, רָקִיעַ, יַבָּשָׁה, מְאֹרֹת, עוֹף and בְּהֵמָה, דָּג and אָדָם, the seventh day). Write Genesis 1:1 in Hebrew across the top.

LOOK FOR	WHAT IT MEANS
Reading	The student reads every label and Genesis 1:1.
Grammar	Articles and plurals are written correctly.
Translation	The labels are translated.
Care	Hebrew is written right to left with every vowel and mark in place.

UNIT 4 · THE WORDS OF GENESIS 1 · LESSON 4.1 OF 10 · 3 SESSIONS OF 30–40 MINUTES

4.1 The Nouns of Creation

OBJECTIVES

- Name the things God made in Hebrew.
- Read Genesis 1:10.
- Use the article, ve- and plurals in Genesis 1.

Warm-up. List what God made on each day of creation. How many can you name in Hebrew already? (Light, darkness, day, night, water, earth …)

WATCH

Genesis 1:10

Daily Dose of Hebrew · 2:10

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ACvKzN11e_E

> **WHEN TO WATCH**
> after the core reading; follow Genesis 1:10, then name each created thing in the story.

Note: Daily Dose of Hebrew: a seminary professor reads Genesis 1:10 in Hebrew and explains it; this one is for the parent.

BACKUP VIDEO

Easy Story 3 - The Creation Story

Aleph with Beth · 4:50

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wjVzrsHOgUM

Aleph with Beth's Easy Story 3, the creation story, in simple Biblical Hebrew with pictures (4:50).

KEY TERMS

יַבָּשָׁה yabbashah (yahb-bah-SHAH)

Dry land.

יַמִּים yammim (yahm-MEEM)

Seas (plural of yam).

רָקִיעַ raqia (rah-KEE-ah)

Firmament, the expanse of the sky: note the furtive patach.

VOCABULARY FOR THE WEEK

Hebrew reads from right to left. Capitals show the stressed syllable, usually the last one. kh is the throaty ch of Bach; a is ah, e is eh, ee is the i of machine, o is oh, oo is the oo of food, and uh is the quick sound of the shewa.

יַבָּשָׁה

yabbashah

yahb-bah-SHAH

noun, feminine

dry land

יַמִּים

yammim

yahm-MEEM

noun, plural

seas

רָקִיעַ

raqia

rah-KEE-ahh

noun

firmament, expanse

עֵץ

ets

AYTS

noun

tree

CORE IDEAS

The story. On the third day God gathered the waters into one place and let the dry land appear. And God called the dry land Earth; and the gathering together of the waters called he Seas: and God saw that it was good. God names what He makes, and it is His.

The words. Day 1 אוֹר light, חֹשֶׁךְ darkness, יוֹם day, לַיְלָה night; Day 2 רָקִיעַ firmament, מַיִם waters; Day 3 יַבָּשָׁה dry land, יַמִּים seas, עֵץ tree; Day 4 מְאֹרֹת lights, כּוֹכָבִים stars; Day 5 עוֹף birds; Day 6 בְּהֵמָה cattle, אָדָם man.

Grammar you know. In Genesis 1:10 find לַיַּבָּשָׁה (la-: to the), וּלְמִקְוֵה (u- and + le- to), הַמַּיִם (the article), and יַמִּים (an -im plural).

ACTIVITY

Seven-day wheel

Make a wheel of the creation week.

You will need

- Two paper plates
- A brad
- Markers

Steps

1. Divide one plate into seven parts and draw each day.
2. Label each in Hebrew.
3. Cut a window in the other plate, fasten them with the brad, and turn to show each day.

Tips

- Spell each word from the list exactly.

Check your work

☐ My wheel has seven days.

☐ I read every label.

HEBREW NOTEBOOK

1. Write the Day 1–6 words in Hebrew with their meanings.

> **From history.** The Hebrew word yom (day) appears with “evening and morning” for each of the six days, and the seventh day has no evening: God’s rest goes on.

WORKED EXAMPLES

Example 1. Translate: וַיִּקְרָא אֱלֹהִים לַיַּבָּשָׁה אֶרֶץ

▼ **Show solution**

1. vayyiqra = and he called.
2. Elohim = God; la- = to the; yabbashah = dry land; erets = earth.

Answer: And God called the dry land Earth.

Example 2. Translate: וּלְמִקְוֵה הַמַּיִם

▼ **Show solution**

1. u- = and; le- = to.
2. miqveh = gathering; hammayim = the waters.

Answer: and the gathering of the waters.

PRACTICE

1. Easy Translate: אוֹר

   ▼ **Show answer**

   light.

2. Easy Translate: מַיִם

   ▼ **Show answer**

   water(s).

3. Easy Translate: עוֹף

   ▼ **Show answer**

   birds, fowl.

4. Medium Translate: יַמִּים

   ▼ **Show answer**

   seas.

5. Medium On which day did God make the stars?

   ▼ **Show answer**

   The fourth.

6. Hard Say Genesis 1:10 in English.

   ▼ **Show answer**

   And God called the dry land Earth; and the gathering together of the waters called he Seas: and God saw that it was good.

COMMON MISTAKES

- Confusing יוֹם (day) with יָם (sea).
- Reading מַיִם as a pair. It just means water.

> **Make it a game · Creation charades.** Act out one thing from the creation week. The others must say its Hebrew name. Score a point for the right name, two if they also say the day.

> **Scripture.** “And God called the dry land Earth; and the gathering together of the waters called he Seas: and God saw that it was good.” (Genesis 1:10, KJV)
>
> Hebrew (Westminster Leningrad Codex, vowel points shown, cantillation marks left out):
>
> וַיִּקְרָא אֱלֹהִים לַיַּבָּשָׁה אֶרֶץ וּלְמִקְוֵה הַמַּיִם קָרָא יַמִּים וַיַּרְא אֱלֹהִים כִּי־טוֹב׃
>
> Find layyabbashah erets, to the dry land, Earth; and yammim, Seas. And God saw ki-tov, that it was good.

4.2 Every Word of Genesis 1:1

OBJECTIVES

- Translate each word of Genesis 1:1.
- Explain אֵת, the marker of the object.

- Read the verse aloud from memory.

> **Warm-up.** Write the first sentence of your favorite book. Now hear the first sentence of the Bible. Seven Hebrew words begin everything.

WATCH

Genesis 1:1

Daily Dose of Hebrew · 2:10

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jVmA5J_0d6A

> **WHEN TO WATCH**
> after the worked examples; then watch how et points to the object.

Note: Daily Dose of Hebrew: a seminary professor reads Genesis 1:1 in Hebrew and explains it; this one is for the parent.

BACKUP VIDEO

Hebrew - אֶת with definite direct objects - Free Biblical Hebrew - Lesson 33

Aleph with Beth · 6:01

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Svqi-DFsHzY

Aleph with Beth explains אֶת, the little word that marks a definite object (6:01), with simple sentences and pictures.

KEY TERMS

בְּרֵאשִׁית bereshit

In the beginning: be- (in) + reshit (beginning, first part), from rosh, head.

בָּרָא bara

He created. In the Bible only God is ever the subject of this verb.

אֵת et

A word with no English translation that marks the definite object: what God created.

VOCABULARY FOR THE WEEK

Hebrew reads from right to left. Capitals show the stressed syllable, usually the last one. kh is the throaty ch of Bach; a is ah, e is eh, ee is the i of machine, o is oh, oo is the oo of food, and uh is the quick sound of the shewa.

בָּרָא

bara

bah-RAH

verb

he created

רֵאשִׁית

reshit

ray-SHEET

noun, feminine

beginning, first

אֵת

et

AYT

particle

(marks the definite object)

אֱלֹהִים

Elohim

eh-loh-HEEM

noun

God

CORE IDEAS

The story. Before anything else was, God was. The Bible does not argue that God exists; it begins with Him. In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth. John's Gospel starts the same way: In the beginning was the Word (John 1:1).

Word by word. בְּרֵאשִׁית in the beginning · בָּרָא created · אֱלֹהִים God · אֵת (object marker) · הַשָּׁמַיִם the heaven · וְאֵת and (object marker) · הָאָרֶץ the earth. Notice the verb comes before its subject: "created God." That is normal Hebrew order.

Elohim. אֱלֹהִים has a plural ending, but the verb בָּרָא is singular: one God. Christians have long seen in this plural form a hint of the Trinity, which the New Testament makes plain, while the grammar insists God is one.

PICTURE STUDY



Carpet Page from the Leningrad Codex, Samuel ben Jacob, scribe, about A.D. 1008 · Ink, gold and colors on parchment · National Library of Russia, St Petersburg

Image: Wikimedia Commons, public domain

The Leningrad Codex is the oldest complete Hebrew Bible in the world, copied in Egypt about A.D. 1008. Near the end of the book the scribe added decorated "carpet pages" like this one; the writing in the center tells who copied and checked the book. The Hebrew text of this course comes from this manuscript.

Look closely

- Find the circle and the star.
- Where is the writing smallest?
- What colors did the painter use?
- The number 474 is written at the top. What might it mean?

Talk about it

1. Why would a scribe decorate a Bible so carefully?
2. How old is this page? How many grandparents ago is that?

ACTIVITY

Seven-word scroll

Make a scroll with the seven words of Genesis 1:1.

You will need

- A long strip of paper
- Two pencils or dowels
- Tape
- A fine marker

Steps

1. Tape a pencil to each end.
2. Write the seven Hebrew words right to left, each with its English below.
3. Roll it from the left end so it opens right to left.
4. Read it aloud to your family.

Tips

- A scroll opens from the right in Hebrew.

Check your work

- ☐ My scroll has all seven words.
- ☐ I read it without help.

HEBREW NOTEBOOK

1. Copy Genesis 1:1 in Hebrew. Write the English under each word.

> **From history.** Jewish readers call Genesis Bereshit, after its first word. The Greek translators called it Genesis, “origin,” and the name came into English through Latin.

WORKED EXAMPLES

Example 1. Translate: בְּרֵאשִׁית

▼ **Show solution**

1. be- = in.
2. reshit = beginning (from rosh, head).

Answer: in the beginning.

Example 2. Why is אֵת not translated?

▼ **Show solution**

1. It marks the object of the verb.
2. English shows the object by word order instead.

Answer: It is an object marker: it points to what was created.

PRACTICE

1. Easy Translate: בָּרָא

   ▼ **Show answer**

   he created.

2. Easy Translate: אֱלֹהִים

   ▼ **Show answer**

   God.

3. Easy How many words are in Genesis 1:1?

   ▼ **Show answer**

   Seven.

4. Medium Which comes first in Genesis 1:1, the verb or the subject?

   ▼ **Show answer**

   The verb: bara Elohim, created God.

5. Medium What does אֵת do?

   ▼ **Show answer**

   It marks the definite object.

6. Hard Read Genesis 1:1 aloud in Hebrew from memory.

   ▼ **Show answer**

   bereshit bara Elohim et hashshamayim ve'et ha'arets.

COMMON MISTAKES

- Translating et as a word. It is a marker.
- Thinking Elohim means "gods" here. The singular verb shows one God.

> **Make it a game · Word shuffle.** Write the seven words on cards and shuffle them. Race to lay them right to left in order. Then turn one face down; can you say the missing word?

> **Scripture.** "In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth." (Genesis 1:1, KJV)
>
> Hebrew (Westminster Leningrad Codex, vowel points shown, cantillation marks left out):
>
> בְּרֵאשִׁית בָּרָא אֱלֹהִים אֵת הַשָּׁמַיִם וְאֵת הָאָרֶץ׃
>
> Read all seven words: bereshit bara Elohim et hashshamayim ve'et ha'arets. Find the article twice, ve- once, and the preposition be- once.

UNIT 5

Animals of the Ark

Lesson 5.1 teaches animal names (סוּס, אַרְיֵה, גָּמָל, חֲמוֹר, נָחָשׁ ...) with Genesis 7:9 and Brueghel's Entry of the Animals into Noah's Ark.

Lesson 5.2 reads Genesis 8:11, the dove and the olive leaf, and reviews the quarter.

PREREQUISITES

- Units 1–4.

MASTERY CHECKLIST

- ☐ I can name ten animals in Hebrew.
- ☐ I can read Genesis 7:9 and 8:11 with help.
- ☐ I can find the article, ve-, plurals and prepositions in a verse.

LESSONS IN THIS UNIT

5.1	**Two by Two: Animals in Hebrew**	3 sessions of 30–40 minutes
5.2	**The Dove and the Olive Leaf**	3 sessions of 30–40 minutes

Unit 5 review

The student writes or answers aloud. The test is worth 20 points.

1. **5 pts**
   Write in Hebrew: horse, lion, camel, dove, raven.

2. **5 pts**
   Translate: שְׁנַיִם שְׁנַיִם בָּאוּ אֶל־נֹחַ

3. **5 pts**
   Translate: עֲלֵה־זַיִת

4. **5 pts**
   Find in Genesis 8:11 one article, one ve-, one preposition.

ANSWER KEY

1. סוּס, אַרְיֵה, גָּמָל, יוֹנָה, עוֹרֵב.
2. Two and two they came (went in) unto Noah.
3. an olive leaf (a leaf of an olive tree).
4. hayyonah (the dove); vehinneh (and lo); be-fiha (in her mouth) or me'al (from off).

Printable answer key (PDF, for the parent)

UNIT CHALLENGE: ARK ANIMAL BOOK

Make an eight-page book of Bible animals. On each page draw a pair, write the Hebrew name, its plural, and a Bible verse reference where it appears. End with the dove and the olive leaf (Genesis 8:11).

LOOK FOR	WHAT IT MEANS
Reading	The student reads every animal name.
Grammar	Plurals and articles are correct.
Translation	Each verse reference is real.
Care	Hebrew is written right to left with every vowel and mark in place.

UNIT 5 · ANIMALS OF THE ARK · LESSON 5.1 OF 10 · 3 SESSIONS OF 30–40 MINUTES

5.1 Two by Two: Animals in Hebrew

OBJECTIVES

- Name ten animals in Hebrew.
- Make their plurals.
- Read Genesis 7:9.

Warm-up. Line up stuffed animals in pairs and march them into a box "ark." How many pairs can you name?

WATCH

Easy Story 13 - הַיֶּלֶד אֲשֶׁר בַּתֵּבָה - The Boy in the Ark

Aleph with Beth · 1:44

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=u9fno8Jr1yg

> **WHEN TO WATCH**
> after the core reading; then watch Genesis 1:24 and listen for behemah, cattle.

Note: Aleph with Beth's Easy Story 13, The Boy in the Ark (hayyeled asher battevah), in simple Biblical Hebrew (1:44); tevah is the same word as Noah's ark.

BACKUP VIDEO

Genesis 1:24

Daily Dose of Hebrew · 2:00

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Q5zMZpBurQw

Daily Dose of Hebrew: a seminary professor reads Genesis 1:24 in Hebrew and explains it; this one is for the parent.

KEY TERMS

שְׁנַיִם שְׁנַיִם shenayim shenayim

Two by two (literally, two two).

בְּהֵמָה behemah

Cattle, livestock, large animals.

חַיָּה chayyah

A living creature, a wild animal.

VOCABULARY FOR THE WEEK

Hebrew reads from right to left. Capitals show the stressed syllable, usually the last one. kh is the throaty ch of Bach; a is ah, e is eh, ee is the i of machine, o is oh, oo is the oo of food, and uh is the quick sound of the shewa.

סוּס

sus

SOOS

noun

horse

אַרְיֵה

aryeh

ahr-YEH

noun

lion

גָּמָל

gamal

gah-MAHL

noun

camel

נָחָשׁ

nachash

nah-KHAHSH

noun

serpent

בְּהֵמָה

behemah

beh-hay-MAH

noun, feminine

cattle, beast

CORE IDEAS

The story. God told Noah to bring every kind of animal into the ark to keep them alive through the flood. There went in two and two unto Noah into the ark, the male and the female, as God had commanded Noah. Noah obeyed exactly, and the LORD shut him in (Genesis 7:16).

The animals. סוּס horse, אַרְיֵה lion, גָּמָל camel, חֲמוֹר donkey, נָחָשׁ serpent, כֶּלֶב dog, שׁוֹר ox, כֶּבֶשׂ lamb, דָּג fish, צִפּוֹר bird, יוֹנָה dove, עֹרֵב raven.

Grammar you know. Plurals: סוּסִים horses, גְּמַלִּים camels. In Genesis 7:9 find אֶל־נֹחַ and אֶל־הַתֵּבָה (el + article) and זָכָר וּנְקֵבָה from Unit 2.

PICTURE STUDY



The Entry of the Animals into Noah's Ark, Jan Brueghel the Elder, 1613 · Oil on panel · J. Paul Getty Museum, Los Angeles

Image: Wikimedia Commons, public domain

Jan Brueghel worked in Antwerp and could study rare animals in the royal menagerie at Brussels. He painted every creature so carefully that scientists can still name many of the birds. The ark itself is small in the far distance; the animals are the stars.

Look closely

- Find the horse, the lions and the camel. Say each in Hebrew.
- Find a pair of birds.
- Where is the ark?
- Which animal would you have been afraid of?

Talk about it

1. Why might Brueghel make the ark so small?
2. How does the painting show God's care for every kind of creature?

ACTIVITY

Ark pairs mobile

Make a hanging mobile of animal pairs with Hebrew names.

You will need

- A coat hanger
- String
- Card
- Markers

Steps

1. Draw six animal pairs on card and cut them out.
2. Write the Hebrew name on one and its plural on the other.
3. Hang each pair from the hanger.

Tips

- Check each plural ending.

Check your work

- ☐ My mobile has six pairs.
- ☐ I read every name.

HEBREW NOTEBOOK

1. Write ten animals in Hebrew with their meanings. Give the plural of three.

> **From history.** Genesis 7:2 says Noah took the clean animals by sevens (for the sacrifice he offered after the flood, Genesis 8:20) and the others by two.

WORKED EXAMPLES

Example 1. Translate: אֶל־הַתֵּבָה

▼ **Show solution**

1. el = unto.
2. hattevah = the ark (doubled tav after the article).

Answer: into (unto) the ark.

Example 2. Make plural: סוּס

▼ **Show solution**

1. Masculine: add -im.

Answer: סוּסִים, horses.

PRACTICE

1. Easy Translate: אַרְיֵה

   ▼ **Show answer**

   lion.

2. Easy Translate: גָּמָל

   ▼ **Show answer**

   camel.

3. Easy Translate: נָחָשׁ

   ▼ **Show answer**

   serpent.

4. Medium Translate: שְׁנַיִם שְׁנַיִם

   ▼ **Show answer**

   two and two (two by two).

5. Medium Translate: זָכָר וּנְקֵבָה

▼ **Show answer**

male and female.

6. Hard Say Genesis 7:9 in English.

▼ **Show answer**

There went in two and two unto Noah into the ark, the male and the female, as God had commanded Noah.

COMMON MISTAKES

- Mixing כֶּלֶב (dog) and כֶּבֶשׂ (lamb).
- Forgetting that tevah means both Noah's ark and baby Moses' basket.

> **Make it a game · Animal pairs memory.** Make 20 cards: ten animals in Hebrew and ten pictures. Turn them face down and find the pairs, reading each Hebrew name aloud.

> **Scripture.** "There went in two and two unto Noah into the ark, the male and the female, as God had commanded Noah." (Genesis 7:9, KJV)
>
> Hebrew (Westminster Leningrad Codex, vowel points shown, cantillation marks left out):
>
> שְׁנַיִם שְׁנַיִם בָּאוּ אֶל־נֹחַ אֶל־הַתֵּבָה
>
> Find shenayim shenayim, two and two; el-hattevah, into the ark; and zakhar u-neqevah, male and female.

5.2 The Dove and the Olive Leaf

OBJECTIVES

- Read Genesis 8:11 with help.
- Find grammar from the whole quarter in one verse.
- Name the birds Noah sent out.

> **Warm-up.** Imagine being shut in the ark for months. How would you know the flood was over? Noah sent birds to find out.

WATCH

Genesis 1:21

Daily Dose of Hebrew · 2:02

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lhEE_klN0-Q

> **WHEN TO WATCH**
> after the core reading; in Genesis 1:21 listen for of kanaf, every winged fowl.

Note: Daily Dose of Hebrew: a seminary professor reads Genesis 1:21 in Hebrew and explains it; this one is for the parent.

BACKUP VIDEO

Easy Story 50 - The Descendants of Noah - תּוֹלְדוֹת נֹחַ - Biblical Hebrew

Aleph with Beth · 4:38

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LNQfiDx8ECc

Aleph with Beth's Easy Story 50, The Descendants of Noah (toledot noach), in simple Biblical Hebrew (4:38).

KEY TERMS

יוֹנָה yonah

Dove. The prophet Jonah's name means dove.

עֹרֵב orev

Raven.

זַיִת zayit

Olive, olive tree.

VOCABULARY FOR THE WEEK

Hebrew reads from right to left. Capitals show the stressed syllable, usually the last one. kh is the throaty ch of Bach; a is ah, e is eh, ee is the i of machine, o is oh, oo is the oo of food, and uh is the quick sound of the shewa.

יוֹנָה

yonah

yoh-NAH

noun, feminine

dove

עֹרֵב

orev

oh-RAYV

noun

raven

זַיִת

zayit

ZAH-yit

noun

olive, olive tree

עֶרֶב

erev

EH-rev

noun

evening

CORE IDEAS

The story. Noah sent out a raven, which flew to and fro. Then he sent a dove; she found no rest and came back. Seven days later he sent her again: And the dove came in to him in the evening; and, lo, in her mouth was an olive leaf pluckt off: so Noah knew that the waters were abated from off the earth. The dove with an olive branch has meant peace ever since.

Read it. וַתָּבֹא אֵלָיו הַיּוֹנָה and the dove came to him; לְעֵת עֶרֶב at evening time; וְהִנֵּה and behold; עֲלֵה־זַיִת an olive leaf; בְּפִיהָ in her mouth.

Quarter review. In this one verse: the article (hayyonah), ve- (vehinneh), le- and be- (le‘et, befiha), min (me‘al, from off), a maqqef (alei-zayit) and a furtive patach (noach).

ACTIVITY

Dove and olive leaf

Make a paper dove carrying a leaf with Hebrew on it.

You will need

- White and green paper
- Scissors
- A marker
- String

Steps

1. Cut out a dove and a green leaf.
2. Write עָלֶה־זַיִת on the leaf and הַיּוֹנָה on the dove.
3. Glue the leaf to the beak and hang the dove in a window.

Tips

- Copy the maqqef in עָלֶה־זַיִת.

Check your work

- ☐ My dove carries its leaf.
- ☐ I can read both labels.

HEBREW NOTEBOOK

1. Copy Genesis 8:11 up to בְּפִיהָ. Label the article, ve-, prepositions and maqqef.

> **From history.** Olive trees can live for many hundreds of years and grow again from their roots. A fresh olive leaf showed that plants were growing again on the earth.

WORKED EXAMPLES

Example 1. Translate: עֲלֵה־זַיִת

▼ **Show solution**

1. alei = leaf of (joined by a maqqef).
2. zayit = olive.

Answer: an olive leaf.

Example 2. Translate: בְּפִיהָ

▼ **Show solution**

1. be- = in.
2. pi = mouth; -ha = her.

Answer: in her mouth.

PRACTICE

1. Easy Translate: יוֹנָה

   ▼ **Show answer**

   dove.

2. Easy Translate: עֹרֵב

   ▼ **Show answer**

   raven.

3. Easy Translate: זַיִת

   ▼ **Show answer**

   olive.

4. Medium Find the article in הַיּוֹנָה.

   ▼ **Show answer**

   ha- with a doubled yod.

5. **Medium** Which bird did Noah send first?

   ▼ **Show answer**

   A raven.

6. **Hard** Say Genesis 8:11 in English.

   ▼ **Show answer**

   And the dove came in to him in the evening; and, lo, in her mouth was an olive leaf pluckt off: so Noah knew that the waters were abated from off the earth.

COMMON MISTAKES

- Reading תַּיּוֹנָה without the doubled yod.
- Missing that ־תָ at the end means “her.”

> **Make it a game · Grammar detective.** The parent writes Genesis 8:11 in Hebrew. Use colored pencils to mark every article (red), ve- (blue), preposition (green) and maqqef (orange). The fastest correct detective wins.

> **Scripture.** “And the dove came in to him in the evening; and, lo, in her mouth was an olive leaf pluckt off: so Noah knew that the waters were abated from off the earth.” (Genesis 8:11, KJV)
>
> Hebrew (Westminster Leningrad Codex, vowel points shown, cantillation marks left out):
>
> וְהִנֵּה עֲלֵה־זַ֣יִת טָרָ֣ף בְּפִיהָ
>
> Find hayyonah, the dove; vehinneh, and lo; alei-zayit, an olive leaf; befiha, in her mouth. Then find noach with its furtive patach.