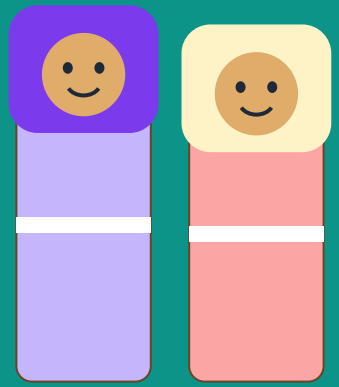
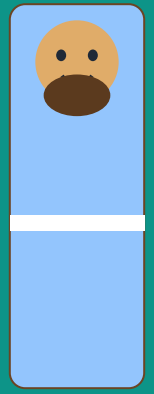


The story of Ruth

Can you spot the mitzvot in a Bible story?



RE · Year 1/2 · Judaism · Explore

Do you remember…?

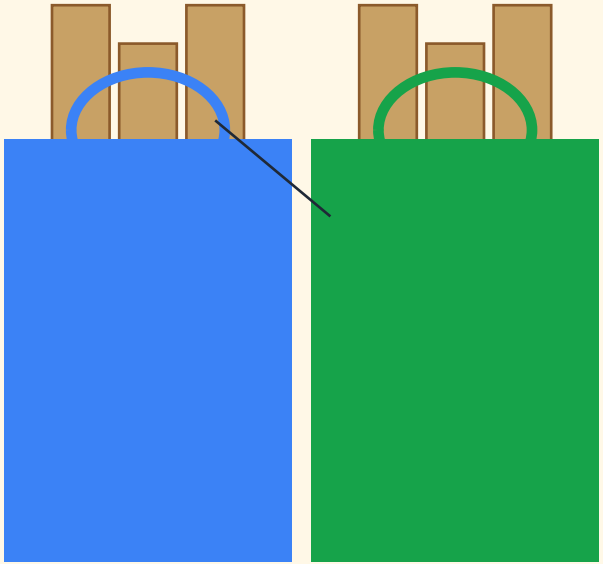
What is a mitzvah?	**A good deed that God asks Jewish people to do**
What is tzedakah?	**Giving to help people in need**
What is a tzedakah box for?	**Collecting money to GIVE away**
Can you give without money?	**Yes! Time, kindness, help, a smile…**

Today we are exploring...

What mitzvot can we find in the Bible story of Ruth?

- ✔ I can retell the story of Ruth.
- ✔ I can spot mitzvot (good deeds) in the story.
- ✔ I can say why studying holy books is a mitzvah for Jewish people.

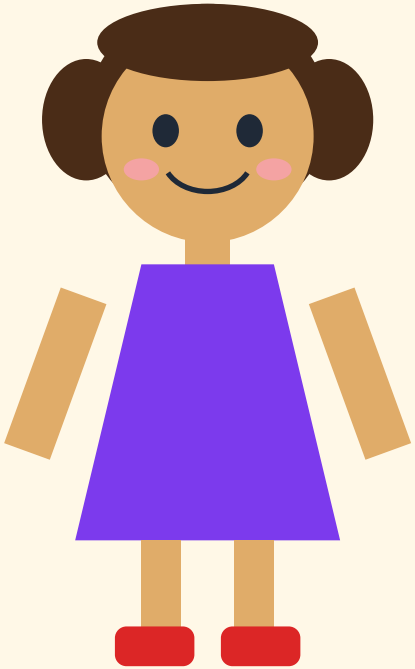
Zoe has brought lots of bags!



Hi everyone! I love stories. See what I have brought in for you today! I want to use these to help tell Gran the story of Ruth.

I learnt the story at Cheder at the synagogue. My friends Tom and Tessa, who are Christians, know this story too, because Christian and Jewish families share it from the Bible.

Zoe needs our help!

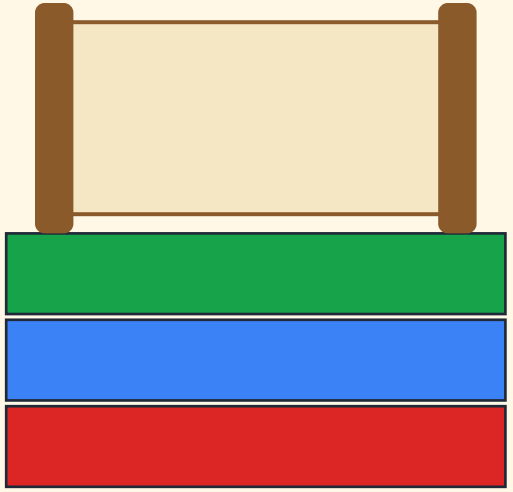


Can you read the story together from a Bible story book, and then make me some little figures from the tubes that I can use to tell the story please?

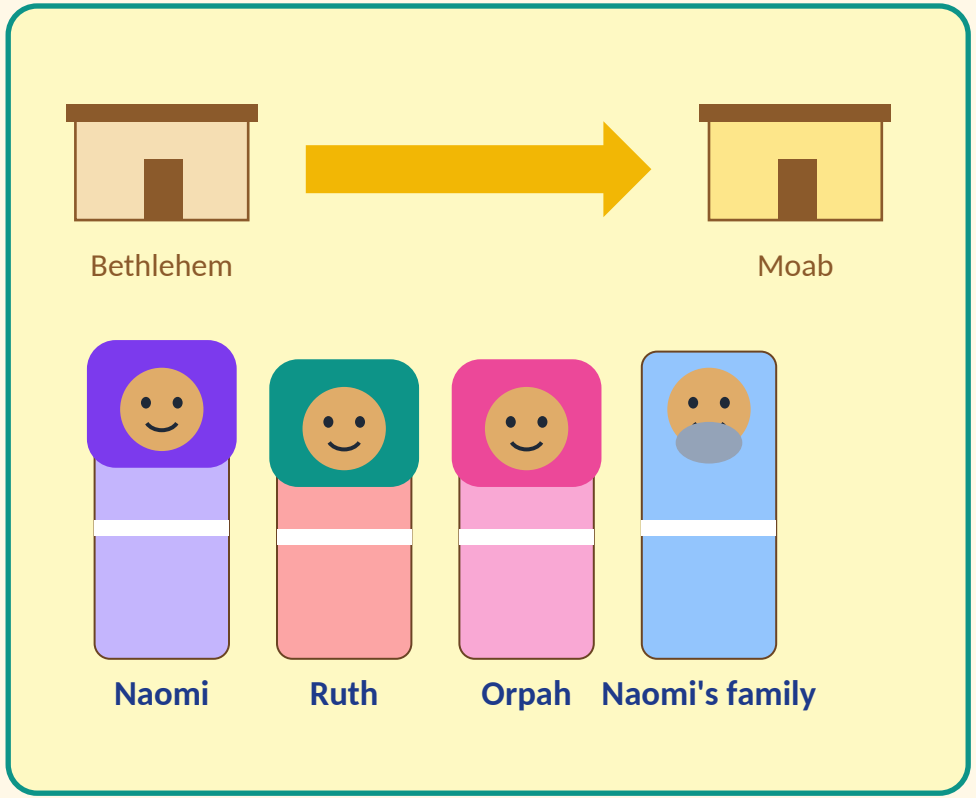
Oh! And while you are doing that, you had better spot any mitzvot in the story, because I want to show Gran that I have learnt lots more about what good deeds are!

What is Cheder?

- ★ Cheder (say HAY-der) is a class at the synagogue where Jewish children learn about the Torah, Hebrew and being Jewish.
- ★ Studying the holy books is a mitzvah too!
- ★ The story of Ruth is in the Jewish Bible. Christians have it in their Bible too.



1. Naomi's family moves away

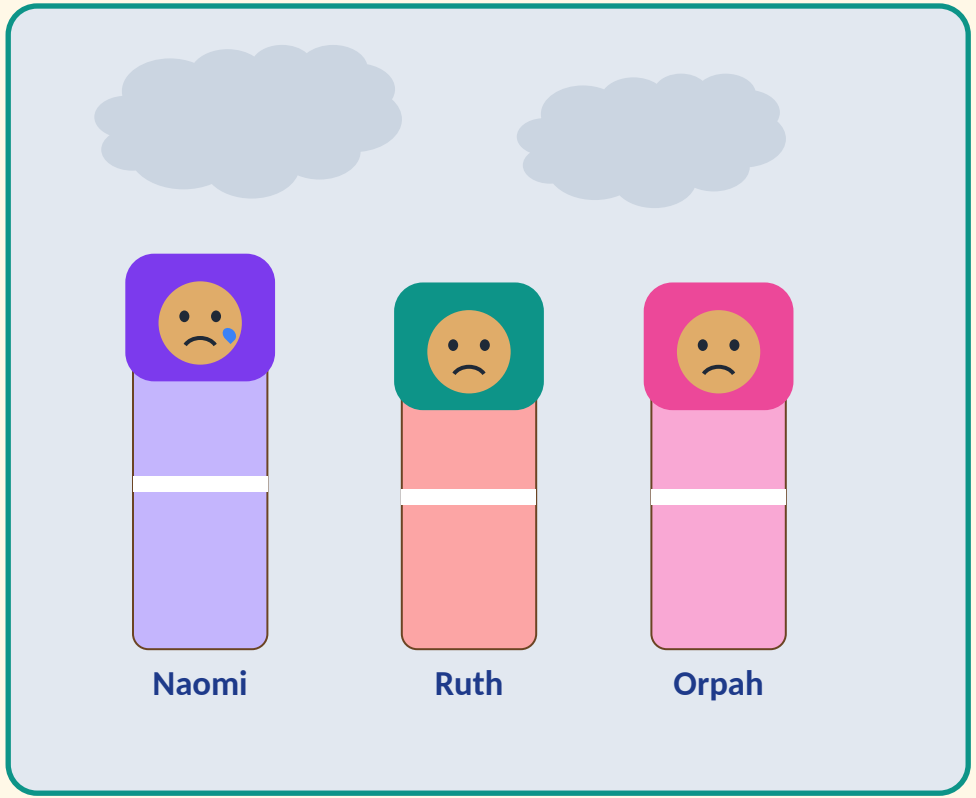


Long ago in Bethlehem, there was no food to eat.

Naomi and her family went to live in the land of Moab.

Naomi's two sons married two women from Moab, called Ruth and Orpah.

2. Sad times

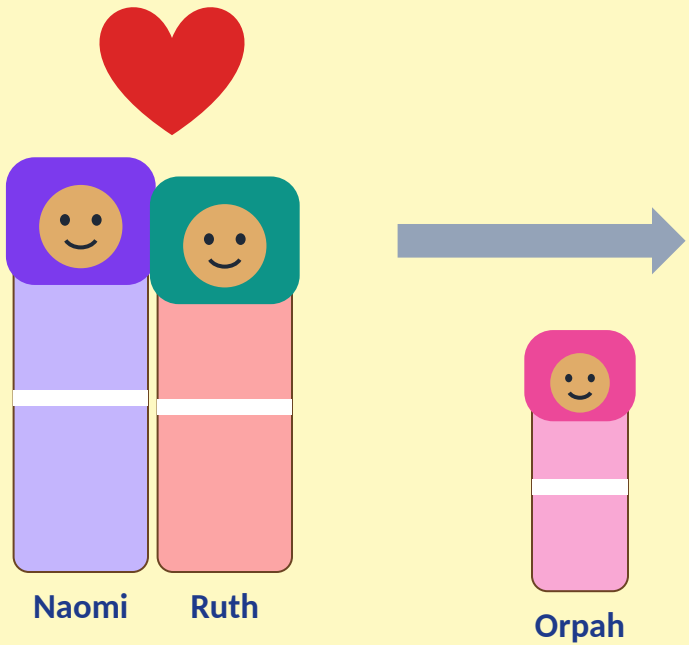


Sadly, Naomi's husband and both her sons died.

Naomi was all alone, a long way from home.

She decided to go back to Bethlehem.

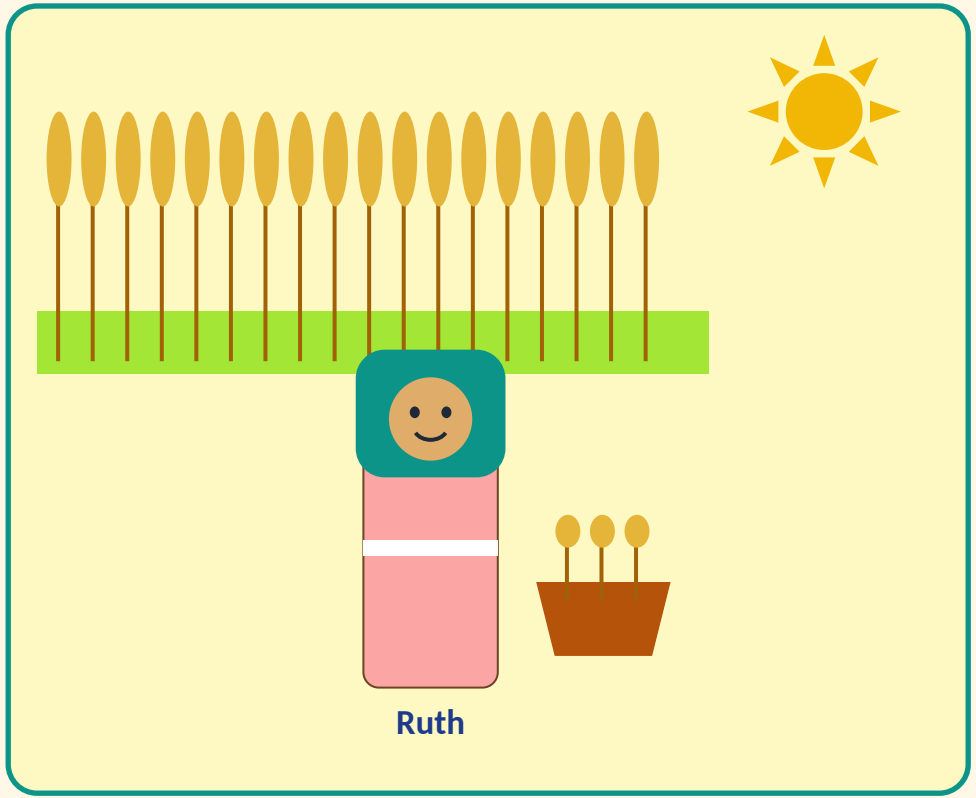
3. Ruth's promise



Orpah went back to her own family.

But Ruth said:
"Where you go, I will go. Your people will be my people, and your God will be my God."

4. Ruth gathers grain

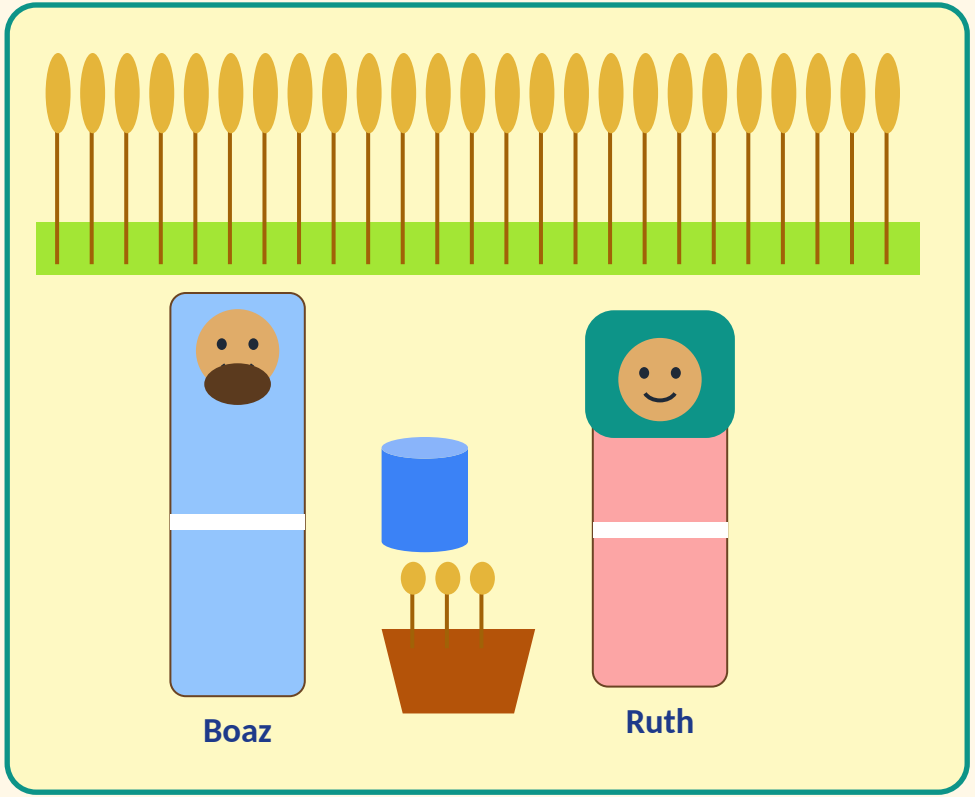


In Bethlehem, Naomi and Ruth had no food.

It was harvest time. Farmers left the grain at the edges of their fields for poor people to pick up.

Ruth worked hard all day in a field.

5. Kind Boaz

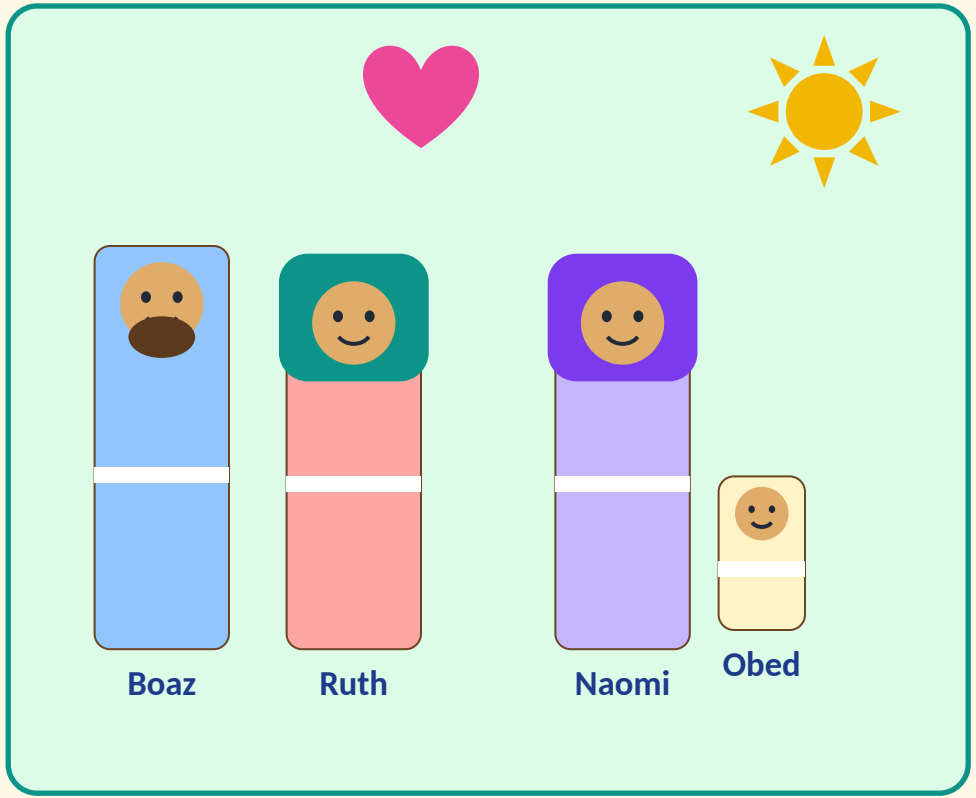


The field belonged to a kind man called Boaz.

He told his workers to drop extra grain for Ruth.

He gave her food and water, and kept her safe.

6. A happy ending

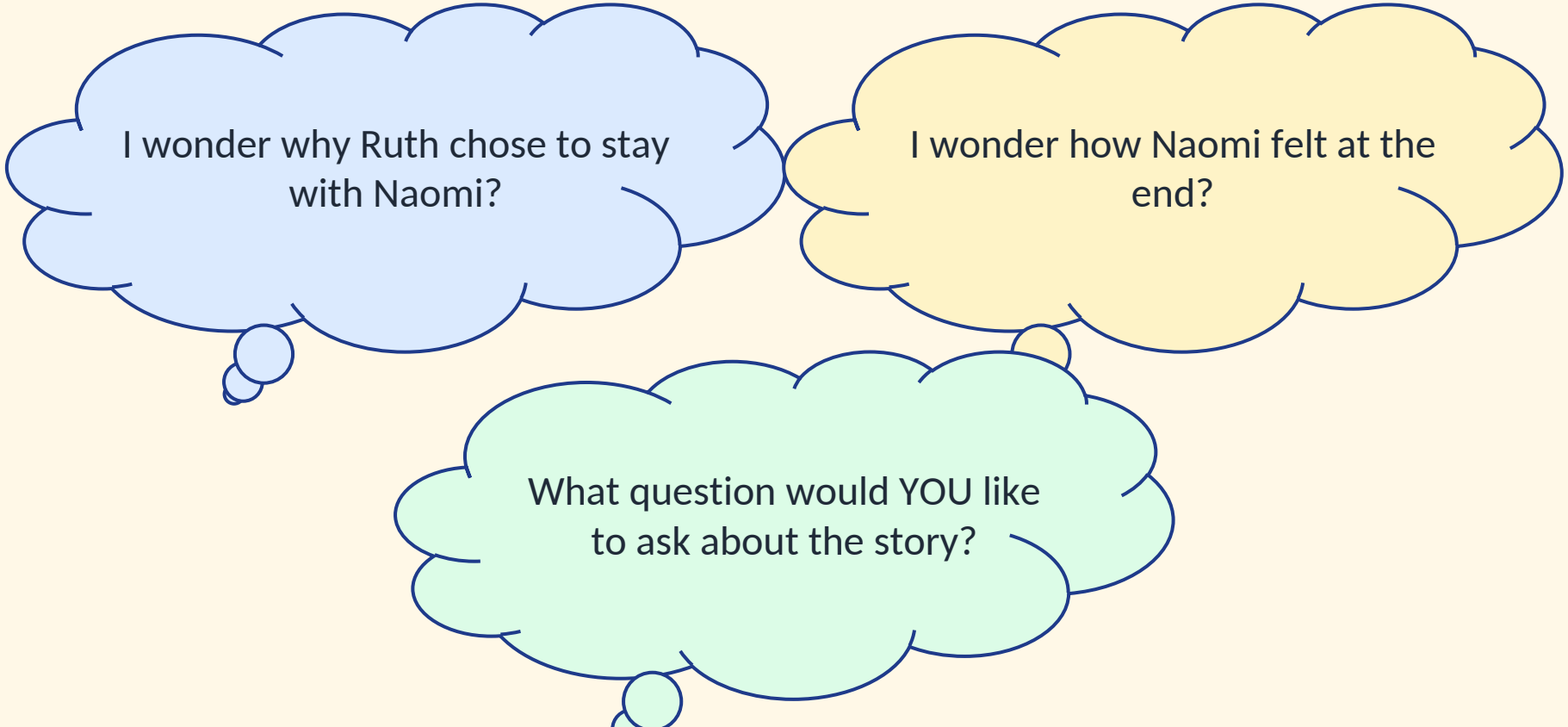


Boaz and Ruth got married and had a baby boy called Obed.

Naomi was so happy! She helped to look after the baby.

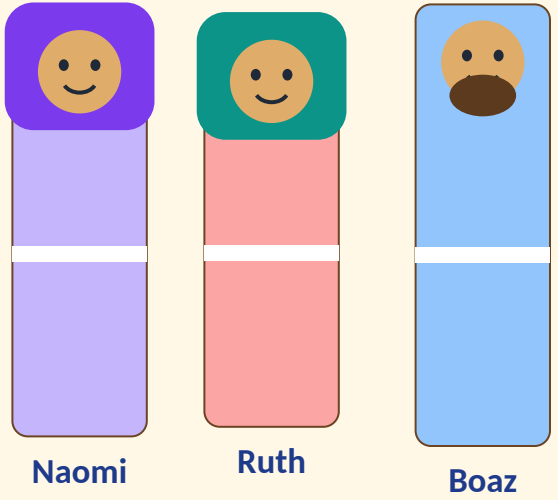
Many years later, Obed's grandson became the great King David.

What would you like to ask?



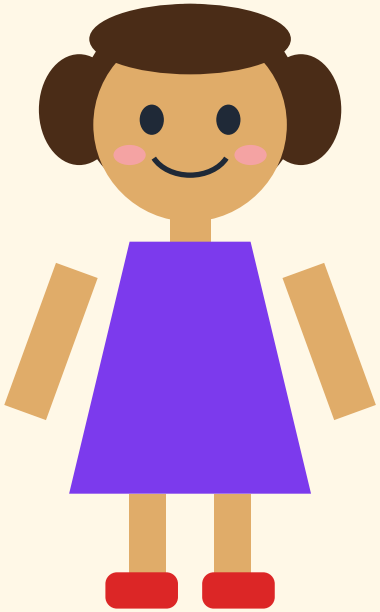
Make tube figures for Zoe!

1. Choose a character: Naomi, Ruth, Orpah, Boaz, a farm worker or baby Obed.
2. Wrap your tube in paper or fabric for clothes.
3. Add a face, and a headscarf or beard.
4. Talk about the good deeds your character did while you work!



Then use your figures to tell the story in your group!

Mitzvah hunt! Did you spot them?



Zoe has spotted lots of mitzvot in the story. Can you find them too?

We think ____ did a mitzvah when ____ .

Use the mitzvah cards to help. Put a mitzvah star next to your figure or picture.

Mitzvot in the story of Ruth

Ruth looked after Naomi so she would not be alone.
caring for family and older people

Ruth worked hard to get food for Naomi.
honouring and helping others

The farmers left grain at the edges of the field for poor people.
a Torah rule: tzedakah!

Boaz was kind to Ruth, a stranger from another land.
welcoming the stranger

Boaz gave Ruth food and water.
feeding the hungry

Naomi looked after baby Obed.
caring for family

It's a mitzvah to STUDY!



Studying the holy books (like the story of Ruth) reminds Zoe that she belongs to the Jewish people and to God.

Studying is like learning. Is this a mitzvah for everyone?

Tell your partner ONE mitzvah from the story of Ruth.

Teacher page: lesson plan (50 mins)

Time	Section	Slides
0–4	Shalom, recap (mitzvah, tzedakah, giving), objective	1–3
4–8	Zoe's bags of tubes and her note; what is Cheder?	4–6
8–20	Read the story of Ruth together (Bible story book and/or slides)	7–12
20–23	Questions about the story	13
23–38	Make tube figures (or a giant group painting) and retell in groups	14
38–46	Mitzvah hunt: 'We think ___ did a mitzvah when…', add stars and labels, then reveal	15–16
46–50	It's a mitzvah to STUDY. Is it a mitzvah for everyone? 'I can' check	17

Story of Ruth: The Beginner's Bible p.152–155 · The Lion First Bible p.164–171 · The Big Bible Storybook p.55–57. Jewish children's Bibles: the Dorling Kindersley one, or 'Classic Bible Stories for Jewish Children' (Alfred J. Kolatch). If you use a Christian children's Bible (with Jesus stories too), explain that Jews and Christians share the story of Ruth.
Resources: carrier bags of cardboard tubes with Zoe's label (slides 4–5) · fabric and paper scraps, wool, glue, pens · mitzvah cards (Appendix 1 or last lesson) · mitzvah stars (slide 19). Ruth craft: dltk-bible.com/mruth.html
Based on the Emmanuel Project Judaism unit (EXPLORE 1), © 2020 Diocese of St Edmundsbury and Ipswich.

Printable mitzvah labels: cut out and stick next to your figure or picture



Mitzvah!

I think _____ did a mitzvah when



Mitzvah!

I think _____ did a mitzvah when



Mitzvah!

I think _____ did a mitzvah when



Mitzvah!

I think _____ did a mitzvah when



Mitzvah!

I think _____ did a mitzvah when



Mitzvah!

I think _____ did a mitzvah when