



Cotton Ball Sheep: Parshat Matot

Introduction:

In this week's parsha, Parshat Matot, we learn that the tribes of Reuven and Gad owned large flocks of sheep. They requested permission from Moshe to settle on the east bank of the Jordan River so that they would have more land for grazing. Initially, Moshe is angered by this request but they assure him that they would first help settle the Land of Israel before they returned east.

This is a great opportunity to recycle some basic items that you already have in the house – q-tips, cotton balls, and toilet paper rolls – to make adorable wooly sheep! Each child can make a whole bunch of them so that you have a large flock of sheep like the 2 ½ tribes!

Materials needed:

- Cotton balls
- Toilet paper roll
- Glue
- Black felt
- Googly eyes
- Plastic shot glass
- Q-tips

Instructions:

1. Glue cotton balls all over toilet paper roll.
2. Glue black felt to cover the plastic shot glass
3. Glue the eyes onto the glass and glue the glass onto the cotton balls.
4. Fold q-tips in half and glue to the bottom of the toilet paper roll.

Emily Shapiro Katz has been a community Jewish educator for over ten years in Jerusalem, Atlanta, and San Francisco. This summer, she will move to Beer Sheva with her husband, Andy, and daughters Maya, age 5 and Avital, age 2. Her contributions to this website reflect her interest in teaching Tanach, doing craft projects, and entertaining her kids. Emily blogs about her Parsha Projects at <http://parshaprojects.blogspot.com/>