

Sukkot

Concepts: Fall harvest

Symbols/Customs: Sukkah, Lulav, Etrog

Props: sukkah & leaves; laminated fruit & vegetables, tools and lulavs; fruit shakers, iPad and speaker with video; Barry Bear and Shubi Dubi.

Tips for Teaching This Unit:

1. We are celebrating a very happy holiday called Sukkot. Talk about what we do on Sukkot: build a sukkah, shake lulav and smell etrog. Sing **Chag Sukkot**. The children waved their hands over their heads for 'happy,' and did motions for the verse. Age appropriate for Preschool – 2nd grade.

Chag Sukkot

by Josh Pizer

Chorus:

Chag Sukkot, Chag Sukkot,
Chag, chag, chag, chag, Chag Sukkot!
Chag Sukkot, Chag Sukkot,
Happy, happy, happy holiday! (end... to you!)

Shake the lulav all around,
Left and right and up and down;
Smell the etrog, it's so sweet!
Celebrate with friends all week! (chorus)

2. We wish one another 'Chag Sameach,' happy holiday. Sing **Chag Sameach** with sign language. (See Rosh Hashanah music unit for lyrics and description of signs.) Age appropriate for Preschool 4's - 3rd grade.
3. Ask if the children have visited a sukkah? Show them the teddy bear sukkah and introduce Shubi Dubi and Barry Bear. Any children who brought stuffed animals with them to class that day were invited to put their animals into the sukkah during class.
4. Invite them to build an imaginary sukkah with you. Take out tool bag and introduce one tool with each verse of **Gonna Build Myself a Sukkah**. Very successful with all preschoolers. Also fun with rhythm sticks.

Gonna Build Myself a Sukkah

by Charity Kahn

I've got an ax, gonna chop chop chop! (3x)
Gonna build myself a sukkah!

Saw, cut cut cut...
Hammer, tap tap tap...
Ladder, climb climb climb... Gonna decorate my sukkah!

5. **Build it Up** is always a hit as well with 4's-elementary school students. For this song, everyone stands in a circle; do body percussion by patting legs just above the knees and gradually moving up the body, getting progressively louder until clapping hands high over-head. Sing the verse, then start back at the knees and build it up again, sing the verse again, then end with the chorus one last time.

Build It Up

by Ellen Allard

Build it up. Build—it—up.
Build it up. Build—it—up. (repeat)

Gonna build a sukkah build it up so high,
See the stars— up in the sky.
Shake the lulav, shake it here and there,
Shake it to show God is everywhere!

6. Now it's time to decorate the sukkah. Pass a basket or bag of laminated fruit/vegetables so each child can select one. Sing **Our Sukkah** or **Decorate Our Sukkah** as the children hang the fruit on the sukkah. Surprisingly, Kindergarten students enjoyed decorating the sukkah as much as the 2's! A quick way to get through Our Sukkah is to call the children up in groups based on type of fruit they picked rather than singing each name ("Now we hang some apples...").

Our Sukkah

by Carol Boyd Leon

Now we decorate our lovely sukkah;
Now we decorate it for Sukkot! (repeat)

Lisa hangs an orange, hangs an orange,
Lisa hangs an orange on our sukkah for Sukkot!

Now we hang some apples, hang some apples,
Now we hang some apples on our sukkah for Sukkot!

Now we have a very lovely sukkah!
Now we have a lovely sukkah for Sukkot! (repeat)

Decorate Our Sukkah

by Lisa Baydush ([audio](#))

Hang an apple, hang an orange,
Decorate our sukkah! (repeat)

Hang a pumpkin, hang a pear...

Chorus:

Decorate our sukkah
Celebrate Sukkot with me!
Decorate our sukkah and
Celebrate with me!

Hang some grapes, and hang some corn...
Hang some cherries, hang some squash... (chorus)

Hang a lemon, hang a lime...
Hang a peach, and hang a plum... (chorus)

Decorate and celebrate this very happy holiday!
Decorate and celebrate Chag Sukkot with me!

7. Show the children the laminated lulav and a lemon fruit shaker (etrog) and explain tradition of shaking them in all directions to show that God is all around. Give a lulav and fruit shaker to each child. Practice shaking in all directions. Sing **I Go to the Sukkah**. Age appropriate for preschool – 3rd grade! I tell them there is a slow part and a fast part. We

sway to the slow part, then we shake REALLY fast in all directions on the second part. They think it is hilarious to suddenly start shaking their shakers really fast and then to stop abruptly. With older kids, instead of props, have them do motions for sukkah, hands, stands, sky and wave.

(Go to the Sukkah

by Lisa Doob

I go to the sukkah with things in my hands,
I go to the sukkah outside where it stands,
I go the sukkah see the sky above,
I go to the sukkah and wave the lulav!

And I wave it... *(sing fast!)*
to the front and to the front and
to the right and to the right and
to the back and to the back and
to the left and to the left and
to the sky and to the sky and
to the ground and to the ground and
up and down and all around and stop!

8. Then for more shaking fun, sing **The Lulav Shake**, singing the chorus twice through at the beginning so that they can sing along while shaking their lulavs/etrogs, and **Shake the Lulav**.

The Lulav Shake

by Steve Dropkin

Sukkot is a harvest holiday,
The celebration lasts for seven days;
We build our sukkah, then we decorate,
A special booth in which we congregate

Chorus:

Do the lulav shake (shake, shake, shake)! (3x)
Do the lulav shake!

The symbols of Sukkot are quite unique,
They show God's presence the entire week;
The etrog's smell, it gets into the air;
We wave the lulav everywhere! (chorus)

Shake the Lulav

by Leah Boonin

You gotta shake the lulav, shake shake the lulav,
Shake the lulav all around!
You gotta shake the lulav, shake shake the lulav
from the left to the right to the sky to the ground!

You gotta...
Shake the lulav east (shake it east!)
Shake the lulav west (shake it west!)
Shake the lulav north (shake it north!)
Shake the lulav south (shake it south!)
Shake the lulav high—, and shake it low—!

9. Now it's time to have a **Party in the Sukkah!** Since we've already built and decorated the sukkah AND waved the lulav, skip those verses and start with 'Gonna party in the sukkah...', then invite friends to the sukkah, eat in the sukkah, sleep out in the sukkah... when they are all lying on the floor, snoring, suddenly go back to the 'dance' chorus – the children scramble to their feet in excitement and start dancing again. Very cute!

Party in the Sukkah

by Lisa Baydush ([audio](#))

Gonna party in the sukkah (3x)
Gonna party in the sukkah all week long!

Chorus:

Dance, dance, dance, dance 'n dance (3x)...

Invite friends to the sukkah...
Eat out in the sukkah...
Sleep out in the sukkah... yawn/snore...

10. Show EinPrat Fountainheads video, **Livin' in a Booth**, to 4's and Kindergarten students.
www.youtube.com/watch?v=oXx5Wp3GcSE

11. Please note my Preschool Parodies song-sheet that make it easy for non-music teachers to easily sing in the classroom.

Songs:

- | | |
|----------------------------------|--|
| 1. Build It Up (Allard) | 7. Chag Sukkot (Pizer) |
| 2. Our Sukkah (Boyd-Leon) | 8. Gonna Build Myself a Sukkah (Kahn) |
| 3. Celebrate Sukkot (Baydush) | 9. We'll Be Going to the Sukkah on Sukkot |
| 4. The Lulav Shake (Dropkin) | 10. Sukkot Hokey Pokey |
| 5. I Go to the Sukkah (Doob) | 11. In My Sukkah (Dean Friedman) |
| 6. Party in the Sukkah (Baydush) | 12. Shake, Shake, Shake That Lulav (TTTO Skip to My Lou) |

