

The Parent Connection



Guide for: ***The Carp in the Bathtub*** by Barbara Cohen

Child's Name

Date Completed:

Understanding the Story

1. Even though Leah and Harry never ate their mother's gefilte fish why was making it so important for their mother?
2. How did Leah and Harry's father show that he understood his children's attachment to the carp?
3. Leah and Harry talk about their feelings of losing Joe, the carp, and say: "We felt as if we were years older than Mama and Papa." What did they mean? (p. 44)

Words to Watch

Tsimmis

Kugel

Mandel bread

Carp

Gefilte fish

Jewish Concepts

Kibud Av Va-Em- Honoring father and mother

Beyond the Book

1. What would you have done if you were Leah or Harry?
2. Think of how this story might have been different if Leah and Harry had managed to keep Joe, the carp, as a pet.
3. Talk about the responsibilities involved in having a pet.

Complementary Activities

1. Cook a family specialty together.
2. Tell this story to a grandparent to elicit a conversation about some ritual preparation for a Jewish holiday.
3. Think of something special for your family to do on a Jewish holiday. Do it every year.

✓ ***Please check those activities completed.***