

Rosh Hashanah & Yom Kippur Books for Children 2–5 Years Old

[Is It Rosh Hashanah Yet?](#)

by **Chris Barash**, illustrated by **Alessandra Psacharopulo**

As summer ends and fall settles in, a family prepares to celebrate Rosh Hashanah. It's time to pick apples, make cards, light the candles, and eat brisket to bring in the new year!

[It's Shofar Time!](#) ("It's Holiday Time" Series)

by **Latifa Berry Kropf**; photographs by **Tod Cohen**

It's Rosh Hashanah—time to learn new things, wear new clothes and taste new fruits. It's time to toss crumbs into the water and say, "I'm sorry." It's time to hear the sounds of the shofar. Join preschoolers as they prepare to celebrate the holiday.

[Sound the Shofar! A Story for Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur](#)

by **Leslie Kimmelman**, illustrated by **John Himmelman**

On Rosh Hashanah the family goes to synagogue to hear Uncle Jake sound the shofar and bring in the New Year. Ten days later, it's Yom Kippur, the Day of Atonement when Uncle Jake blows the shofar for the last time. This story highlights the importance of the ten special days between Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur called the High Holy Days or Days of Awe.

[Happy Birthday, World: A Rosh Hashanah Celebration](#) (Board Book)

by **Latifa Berry Kropf**; illustrated by **Lisa Carlson**

This book is a child's first introduction to Rosh Hashanah, the Jewish New Year, in a context a young child can understand and enjoy—a birthday party for the world!

[Today Is the Birthday of the World](#)

by **Linda Heller**, illustrated by **Alison Jay**

Today is a special day: the birthday of the world, when God and all God's creatures celebrate the beauty of life. As God asks each creature whether it has been the best that it can be, this simple affirmation applauds the contribution that each and every one of us can make—from the mightiest elephant to the smallest child.

[Sammy Spider's First Rosh Hashanah](#) ("Sammy Spider" Holiday Series)

by **Sylvia A. Rouss**, illustrated by **Katherine Janus Kahn**

Sammy Spider wants to taste the golden honey the Shapiros set out for a sweet New Year. His mother tells him to stick to spinning webs, but will curious Sammy listen?

[Apples and Honey: A Rosh Hashanah Lift-the-Flap Book](#)

by **Joan Holub**, illustrated by **Cary Pillo**

Young readers learn about the meaning and traditions of the Jewish New Year celebration as they make New Year's cards to send to family and friends, go to synagogue to hear the shofar, and after dinner, enjoy apples dipped in honey to mark a sweet new year.

[The Apple Tree's Discovery](#)

by **Peninnah Schram and Rachayl Eckstein Davis**, illustrated by **Wendy W. Lee**

A little apple tree in a forest of oaks begs God for stars like those glimmering on the branches of the great oak trees beside her. As the seasons pass, she learns to appreciate her own gifts and realizes that it's possible to find a star in each of us.

[Apple Days: A Rosh Hashanah Story](#)

by **Allison Sarnoff Soffer**, illustrated by **Bob McMahon**

Katy's favorite holiday is Rosh Hashanah, when she gets to pick apples and make applesauce with her mother. But what happens when the tradition is interrupted by the early arrival of her baby cousin?

[How the Rosh Hashanah Challah Became Round](#)

by **Sylvia B. Epstein**, illustrated by **Hagit Migron**

Yossi lived long ago and was the baker's oldest child. He loved the special days when challah was made. He felt very important as he carried the great pan of braided challahs down the stairs to the ovens. But then when he tripped, Yossi's terrible tumble turned out to be a terrific triumph.

[A Rosh Hashanah Walk](#)

by **Carol Levin**, illustrated by **Katherine Janus Kahn**

A group of children take a Rosh Hashanah walk and learn about the custom of "tashlich", the act of symbolically throwing away one's sins by throwing bread crumbs into a flowing body of water and asking for forgiveness in the New Year.

[Jackie and Jesse and Joni and Jae](#)

by **Chris Barash**, illustrated by **Christine Battuz**

On Rosh Hashanah, four friends walked to the river for the custom of "tashlich". They reflect on mistakes they have made in the past year, apologize for hurting each other's feelings, and then think about how they will do better in the new year.

[Sammy Spider's First Yom Kippur](#) ("Sammy Spider" Holiday Series)

by **Sylvia A. Rouss**, illustrated by **Katherine Janus Kahn**

When Josh breaks the rules and plays ball indoors, he finds himself apologizing not only to his parents, but to Sammy Spider as well. A Yom Kippur story about saying "I'm sorry".

[I'm Sorry](#)

by **Sam McBratney**, illustrated by **Jennifer Eachusails**

I have a friend I love the best, but even best friends fight, and when that happens, "I'm sorry" is the hardest thing to say.

[I'm Sorry, Grover: A Rosh Hashanah Tale](#) ("Shalom Sesame" Series)

by **Tilda Balsley and Ellen Fischer**, illustrated by **Tom Leigh**

Brosh can't find his blue cap, and mistakenly suspects that one of his friends has taken it. When Grover returns the lost item, Brosh is glad that the High Holidays offer him a chance to say, "I'm sorry."

[The Hardest Word: A Yom Kippur Story](#)

by **Jacqueline Jules**, illustrated by **Katherine Janus Kahn**

When the Ziz, a magnificent bird who lived long ago, seeks God's help, he is instructed to bring God "the hardest word." The Ziz flies off to search but none of the words he finds are acceptable until the Ziz makes an important discovery.