

The Machine

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Suggestions for Family Activities

There are all sorts of machines in the world – one washes clothes, another projects movies onto a screen, and there is even a machine that brushes our teeth. Some machines are just machines, like the one built by a child and his grandfather with great joy and tremendous creativity. Their shared delight at creating something together leads to a particularly surprising and moving contraption that raises memories and stories from the lives of both grandparents. The kinds of stories that teach us about life and are always fun to listen to.

Wisdom is with aged men and understanding in length of days

[Job 12:12]

A little advice for family reading

To make family reading enjoyable, and encourage children to read, we should choose books to which children relate and explore topics in which they are interested. Some prefer a piece of fiction, while others would want to read a story that “once was”. Whatever their favorite book may be, it would encourage them to enjoy books, while helping them to develop their imagination and creativity.

A discussion on belongings and memories

You too could look for items that remind you of past experiences: A family photo, gift you have received, or item associated with an experience you have had. Take turns introducing the object of your choice and sharing a memory relating to it.

Listening to the story

What does Grandpa sound like? Does the machine make sounds? By scanning the QR code you too can listen to the story together or separately.

Building something

Are you interested in making a machine of your own? You can gather some boxes, fabrics, crates and old toys to build your very own machine. You can plan what it would do and look like together, or simply build it and discover its attributes as you go along.

Illustrations – Where are the machines?

Many of the illustrations in this book depict machines. Perhaps you would enjoy leafing through them and finding illustrations of machines and machine parts – Can you tell what each of them does? Perhaps you could be inspired by the part you found to invent a new machine, and imagine what it is capable of doing.



Arts & crafts, songs and other activities are available on the Sifriyat Pijama Pinterest.