

מסכת
 סוֹפָה
 דף טז

DAF YOMI4 Kids

Inside the Daf

WORD OF THE DAY:
 דָּמִי
 "IT IS LIKE"

It's hard find a needle in a haystack, but have you ever found a סוֹפָה in a haystack? The מְשֻׁנָּה says that if you dig a hole in a haystack it may not be used as a סוֹפָה, even if the hole is large enough to be one.

In the גְּמָרָא, רַב הוֹנָא says that if the haystack *always* had a hole in it and no one had to dig one, if the hole was 7 טְפָחִים long by 7 טְפָחִים wide by one טֶפַח high (one טֶפַח is about 3.5 in, or 9 cm) and then someone dug further making the hole 10 טְפָחִים high, the haystack would be כָּשֵׁר (valid) to use as a סוֹפָה.

The reason that this type of סוֹפָה is valid is because the hole came first and then the haystack was placed on top. This is exactly how a regular סוֹפָה is built: the סִכָּךְ covering and its walls are placed on top of an open area. If the haystack came first and the hole was afterwards dug into the hay, the hole is not valid as a סוֹפָה because the סִכָּךְ was not *placed* on top of the open area. (The requirement for the סִכָּךְ to be placed on a סוֹפָה is called "תַּעֲשֶׂה וְלֹא מִן הָעֲשׂוּי").

A מְדוּת Moment

"Zvi, what if I were to tell you that man can be closer to Hashem than angels?"

"How do you know that, Shlomo?"

"The special prayer of the Jews is 'שְׁמַע יְיָ אֱלֹהֵינוּ ה' אֶחָד', where the Name of Hashem is only two words away from the beginning of the verse. The special prayer of angels is, 'קְדוֹשׁ קְדוֹשׁ קְדוֹשׁ ה' צְבָאוֹת' and

Hashem's Name is three words away from the beginning of their prayer. We see that, literally, the Jews are closer to Hashem than the angels!"

"Hey, not only that," added Zvi, "but didn't we learn today that a gap of less than three handbreadths is considered like it doesn't exist? We could say that since the Jewish people are less than three words away from

Hashem, it is considered as if the gap between them doesn't exist!"

"Excellent observation," said Shlomo. "If we can keep in mind how close we are to Hashem, it will be very difficult to act lesser than an angel would!"

(ספר נשמת אדם עמ' 46)

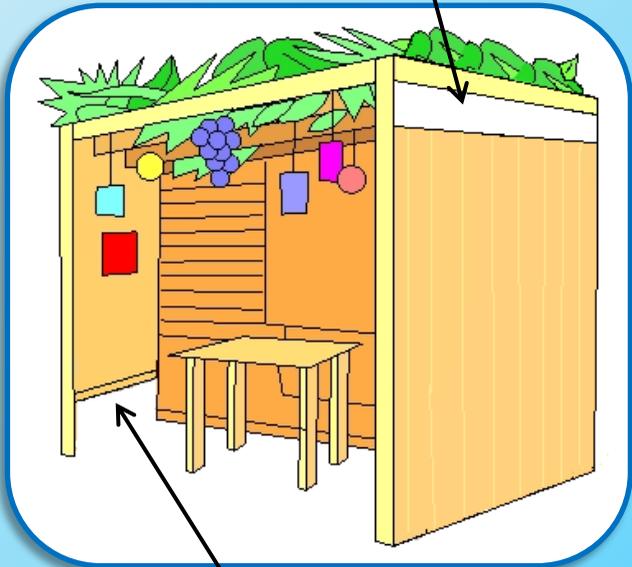
Hanging Walls

Most סוכות we see have walls standing from the ground up. But have you ever thought of building a wall from the roof downwards?

The משנה discusses a סוכה wall that began at the roof, and extended down until it was hanging 3 טפחים from the ground (about 11 in or 27 cm from the ground). If it hangs 3 טפחים or more from the ground, the סוכה is invalid. If, however, the wall extends down so that it is less than 3 טפחים from the ground, the סוכה is כָּשֵׁר. This is because of the concept of "לְבוּד" ("closed") which means, any gap of less than 3 טפחים is treated as if it were closed with solid material.

The תנא of our משנה also says that if a סוכה wall on the ground is 10 טפחים high (about 3 ft or 1 m), it doesn't even need to reach the roof on the סוכה. At any distance from the roof, the סוכה wall is valid. This is because of a concept called "גוּד אֲסִיק" ("pull and bring up") which means here that a wall 10 טפחים high is seen as extending all the way up.

"גוּד אֲסִיק"
 ("pull and bring up")
 A wall 10 טפחים high is seen as extending all the way up.



"לְבוּד" ("closed")
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Did You Know...

Once the residents of the town of צפורי forgot to bring a Torah scroll to the synagogue on Friday so they may read it on the Sabbath (carrying an object from one building to another is not allowed on the Sabbath itself). They had hidden the Torah to protect it from gentiles seeking to harm it.

Games

What's the word?

Find the hidden word by crossing out the sounds that appear 4 or more times. (What does it mean?)

ב	ל	ו	ב	ו	ל	ו	ב	ל	ד
ד	ל	ו	ב	ל	ד	ב	ל	ו	ל
ו	ב	ל	ד	ו	ד	ל	ל	ב	ו

Review Questions – סוכה דף ט"ז

- When may a haystack with a hole be used as a סוכה?

- How far from the ground must the walls of a סוכה reach?

- What did the residents of צפורי hide from the gentiles?
