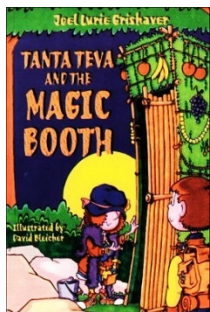
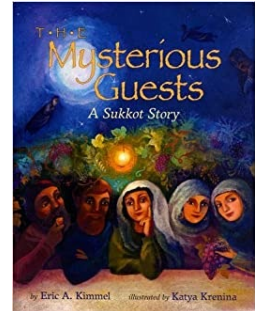


SUKKOT & SIMCHAT TORAH

Below is a list of favorite Sukkot and Simchat Torah resources in the Rabbi Richard B. Safran Library at Congregation Achduth Vesholom. Be sure to check out our full list of holiday titles [here](#).

Picture Books for Younger Readers

There are several good Sukkot titles in our picture book collection. Eric Kimmel's *The Mysterious Guests: A Sukkot Story*, is a National Jewish Book Award winner. It adapts an old folktale of two brothers, one generous and one selfish, to the holiday. *Shanghai Sukkah*, by Heidi Smith Hyde, is a Sydney Taylor Honor Book, set in World War II-era Shanghai. It includes two harvest celebrations – Sukkot and the Chinese Moon Festival. Another favorite story is told in two different picture books. *Sky-High Sukkah* by Rachel Packer is the more recent version with full-color illustrations, and David Adler's *The House on the Roof* is the older version. Both involve a community coming together to build a sukkah on the top of an urban apartment building. For the youngest of the picture book audience, there are numerous entertaining Sukkot titles that illustrate the holiday. Among the better options is Jamie Korngold's *Sadie's Sukkah Breakfast*, in which Sadie and her sister Ori decide their breakfast would be better with guests. *Is It Sukkot Yet?* by Christ Barash is a simple but effective introduction for very young readers as well.

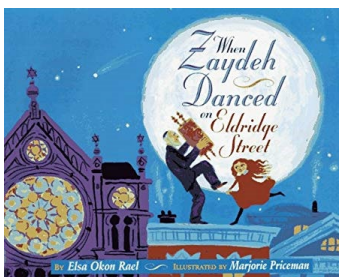
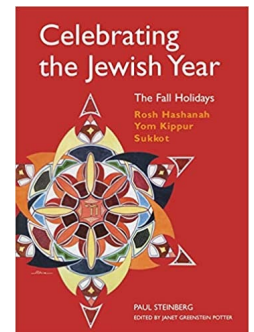


Chapter Books for Older Children

There are two early chapter books to recommend from our juvenile fiction collection. Dori Weinstein's *Shaking the Shack* involves a fifth-grade Hebrew school class and a mysterious four-legged visitor. *Tanta Teva and the Magic Booth*, by Joel Lurie Grishaver, involves time travel in a magic sukkah! In the non-fiction department, we offer Cathy Fishman's *On Sukkot and Simchat Torah*, an Association of Jewish Libraries Notable Book. Part of the author's series about the Jewish holidays, the text – a description of the holiday celebration of a young girl and her family – is accompanied by beautiful illustrations.

Adult Titles

Sukkot is included in Rabbi Paul Steinberg's collection, *Celebrating the Jewish Year: The Fall Holidays*. This anthology includes writings by everyone from Maimonides to Elie Wiesel. Philip Goodman's *Sukkot and Simchat Torah Anthology* also incorporates a variety of writings to give insight to the festival. And if you're inclined to build your own sukkah, we have Steve Herman's *The Sukkah Project: Assembly Guide*.



Simchat Torah

Simchat Torah is a tough holiday to find books for, but we do have a few good titles to offer in our collection. *When Zaydeh Danced on Eldridge Street*, by Elsa Okon Rael, is a classic Sydney Taylor Award-winner that is highly recommended. It's the story of a young girl who attends the holiday celebration with her grandfather. *The Patchwork Torah*, by Allison Ofanansky, features a *sofer*, or Torah scribe, who repairs a Holocaust scroll. A personal favorite for all ages is *Gittel and the Bell*, by Roberta Goldschlag Cooks. Though not set specifically on Simchat Torah, it is an engaging tale of eight-year-old Gittel and her dilemma when her community's Torah goes missing. We have two excellent non-fiction titles about Torah scrolls and how they're made. Allison Ofanansky's *How it's Made: Torah Scroll*, is a beautifully illustrated behind-the-scenes account which includes activities for kids. For older readers, *Sofer: The Story of a Torah Scroll*, by Eric Ray, is a more in-depth account. For adults, Simchat Torah readings are included in Philip Goodman's *Sukkot and Simchat Torah Anthology* listed above.