

The Mitzvah-Go-Round



By Drs. Claire Buchwald and Larry Bogoslaw,
Illustrated by Ann D. Koffsky
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Reviewed by Sarah Cohen

So your kids have gone through every volume by Seuss
And you're looking for something with slightly less *shtus*
Something with *hashkafot*, but also good grammar
That doesn't bang morals in with a sledgehammer
Rejoice all ye parents! The answer's been found!
Hop on for a ride on the Mitzvah-Go-Round!

Strudelheim, Zingland and Kalamazoo
Are some of the places that beckon to you.
You'll scale peakish mountains, see sunnier climes
And meet mitzvah-doers in marvelous rhymes.
A teacherish bee with his specs at half-mast,
Will show you the sights, but hold on—he flies fast!

The Whoopswhistler Yidden hold pipes twice their size;
They blow mitzvah-bubbles—each one holds a prize.
And I'm sure that the foothills of Kalamazoo
Are proud to play host to this motley crew!

Here are the Gross-und-Klein children, so sweet
Who schlep an impossible load on light feet;
Boxes and bags, an old man in a chair—
Who's too tired to walk—is held up by this pair.

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at Bat Torah Academy in Monsey, New York.
This piece was approved by peer review of her
three-year-old daughter.

With bingle-bells jingling, make way for yum-carts,
Piled with rugelach, pies and so many yummy tarts.
They may look like your *bubbies*, but please don't be fooled,
The Kugel-mit-Strudelheim sisters here rule!

Your kids might be throwing themselves on the floor,
Refusing their pj's and kicking the door.
But the Zeesalach girls and the Gutyingel boys
Are children who always clean up all their toys.
They cover their eyes (once they're bathed, brushed and fed),
Say Shema Yisrael and jump into bed.

(Please note: Before you target these kids for eviction
Remember, they are a complete work of fiction!)

But wait—keep on going—don't stop, 'cuz there's more.
Puffity pillows on Shabbat to snore.
And don't leave before seeing the tubulous trees;
Make a *berachah*, and eat while enjoying the breeze.

The jubulous *chatunah* band's got the beat;
The *chai*-horns alone will lift you from your seat.
And the Me-Zoo-Kids stack up with rap-a-tap tacks;
They make up in spirit for inches they lack.

Before signing off, this review must make mention
Of the illustrations—marvels of invention.
All sorts of creations spring out from the pages
Delighting all children of various ages.

We'd love to continue, yet this page must end,
But there's lots more fun waiting right 'round the bend.
Where color and music and good times run riot
What are you waiting for? Go out and buy it! JA

