

An Interactive Passover Story with Songs for preschoolers

1. **The Jewish people were slaves in Egypt. Do you know what that means? It means no freedom, no choices, working all the time... it's not fun being a slave.**

Building Cities by Shirley Cohen, capo 2

[C]Bang (3x), hold your [G]hammer low,
bang (3x), give a [C]heavy blow!

**For it's work (3x), every [F]day and every [G]night,
For it's work (3x), when it's [F]dark and when it's [C]light.**

[C]Dig (3x), get your [G]shovel deep, dig (3x), there's no [C]time to sleep...

[C]Lift (3x), lift that [G]boulder high, Lift (3x),
'til you [C]touch the sky...

Bang, bang, bang...

2. **The king was called Pharaoh. He worried that the Jewish slaves would rise up against him one day, so he said that every Jewish baby boy must die, because that way they wouldn't grow up to fight him. Well, there was a Jewish mother, Yocheved, who wanted to keep her baby boy safe. So she put him in a basket and put the basket in the river, hoping that a nice Egyptian mommy would find him and take care of him. She sent his big sister Miriam with him to make sure he was safe. (baby in basket prop – walk around so all children can see)**

Sing a capella,
so you can do
hand motions.

Where is Baby Moses? by Jackie Silberg

[C]Where is baby Moses, [G7]Moses, [C]Moses? (Look for him with hand over eyes.)

Where is baby Moses? He's [G7]in the River [C]Nile. (His mother builds a special basket to keep him safe. His sister Miriam guards him until they reach the Pharaoh's family and watches to make sure he is safe.)

He's floating in a **basket** (3x)... in the River Nile. (Make rocking motion with arms.)

The princess she is **swimming** (3x)...in the River Nile. (Make swimming motion with arms.)

She finds the baby **Moses** (3x)... in the River Nile. (Scoop up baby out of basket.)

She takes him to the **palace** (3x)... along the River Nile. (Put hands over head like palace roof.)

And there our Moses **grows up** (3x)... along the River Nile. (Act out growing up to become a strong man.)

3. **Moses grew up to be a prince of Egypt. But he didn't like seeing the suffering of the Israelite slaves. He left Egypt and went into the desert where he became a shepherd. Do you know what a shepherd does? (takes care of sheep) One day, Moses saw a miraculous sight. Do you know what he saw? He saw a bush that was burning, but it never burned up! When he walked closer to get a better look, he heard a voice calling his name – Moses! Moses looked around. There was no one there! Just Moses and the sheep. MOSES! The voice was coming from the burning bush! Do you know whose voice that was? That's right, God! God told Moses he must go back and set his people free!**
4. **So Moses went back to Egypt and went right to see Pharaoh. He said, "LET MY PEOPLE GO!" And do you know what Pharaoh said? NO!**

Oh, Listen by Shirley Cohen, capo 3

[Am]Oh listen (3x) [E]King Phar[Am]aoh;

Oh listen, oh listen, please [E]let my people [Am]go!

They [E]want to go away; they [Am]work too hard all day!

King [E]Pharaoh, King Pharaoh, what do you say?

[Am]No, no, no, I [E]will not let them [Am]go (2x)

5. Do you know what God did after that? He sent 10 plagues on Egypt! Plagues are bad things, like frogs everywhere and hail falling from the sky and lice and flies – yuck!

One Morning by Shirley Cohen, capo 3

[A]One morning when Pharaoh [E]woke up in his bed,
There were frogs in his bed and [A]frogs on his head,
Frogs on his nose and [D]frogs on his toes
[E]Frogs [A]here, [E]frogs [A]there,
[E]frogs were jumping [A]ev[E]ery[A]where!

Lice...biting; Flies... buzzing; Hail...falling; Locusts...swarming

[A]One morning when Pharaoh [E]woke up in his bed,
There wasn't any sun, it was [A]dark instead
Dark in the daytime, [D]dark all day long
[E]Dark [A]here, [E]dark [A]there,
[E]Darkness covered [A]ev[E]ery[A]where!

After each plague, say:
So Moses went to
Pharaoh and said: LET
MY PEOPLE GO! And
what did Pharaoh say?
(sing No, no no refrain
from Oh Listen)

Remind them to go back
to sleep (heads on
hands) before singing the
song again.

6. Finally, Pharaoh said, GO! Take your people and leave! So the Israelites grabbed their mummies and their daddies and their favorite stuffed animals and their half-baked bread and they high-tailed it out of Egypt as fast as their little legs would carry them. C'mon, let's go before Pharaoh changes his mind! (Jump up and start running around the room, getting the children to follow you. Stop suddenly when you see the sea in front of you!) OH NO! How will we get across? We don't know how to swim. We're slaves, they never taught us! And we don't have boats! OH NO! Do you hear that?! (point to the back of the group so that they all turn around. Put your hand over your eyes like you're looking far away.) That's Pharaoh's army, coming to catch us! What are we going to do? We need a miracle! So do you know what Moses did? He raised his staff in the air (raise your arm) and God parted the sea so that the Israelites could cross on dry land.

We're Marching Across the Sea by Peter and Ellen Allard, adapted by Lisa Baydush, capo 2

We're [Am]marching, we're [Em]marching
a[Am]cross [Em]the [Am]sea (clap clap) (repeat)
We are [C]free—! We are [G]free—!
We are [Am]safe from Pharaoh's ar[G]my!

Galloping, jumping, running, dancing...

7. When the Israelites had all crossed to safety, God closed the waters and the Egyptians couldn't chase after them. Miriam led the people in song and dance with her tambourine! (give out tambourines or percussion instruments and ask the kids if they're ready to sing, dance, jump and shout?!)

Sing, Dance, Jump and Shout by Lisa Baydush, capo 3

[C]Sing, dance, [F]jump and shout, [G]play your tambou[C]rine;
[C]Sing, dance, [F]jump and shout, [G]be glad we're [C]free! (repeat)

[F]Miriam [C]led the way [G]joyous[C]ly,
[F]Follow [C]Miriam, [G]be glad we're [C]free! (chorus)

[F]Mi Cha[C]mocha ba-ey[G]lim Ado[C]nai,
[F]Sing a [C]song of praise, [G]ev'ry girl and [C]boy! (chorus)

Continue with Dayeinu,
then sit down and sing
about the food we eat
during Passover with
Lotsa Lotsa Matzah.