



Ohio Academic Content Standards

Standards: Social Studies

K: A Child's Place in Time and Space

Historical Thinking and Skills: 2

Heritage: 3

Things you will need:

- A plate-sized paper circle
- 6 smaller circles that will fit on your "plate" (ex. cupcake liners or cut paper)
- Supplies to represent each food (ex. lego pieces, buttons, beads, cut paper)



Background & Context:

In The Children's Museum of Cleveland's virtual storytime we read two books about Passover. Each year at Passover, those who are of the Jewish faith celebrate by eating special foods, sing songs, tell stories, and participate in a seder – a special meal designed to help us remember the journey from slavery to freedom that the Israelites took.

Seder takes place on the first night of Passover, after sunset. Some families also hold a seder on the second night of Passover. One part of the seder is eating special symbolic foods, these foods can all be found on the Seder Plate.

A seder plate holds symbols of the Passover story. Karpas – a green vegetable, often parsley – is dipped in salt water to remind us of the tears of the enslaved Israelites. A sweet fruit paste called charoset (from the Hebrew word cheres, "clay") is like the mortar that the Israelites used to construct buildings for the Egyptian empire. Maror, a bitter herb (usually horseradish), recalls the bitterness of slavery. It is sometimes joined by hazeret, a second bitter herb. A roasted lamb shank bone, zeroah, is a reminder of the offering the Jews made before leaving Egypt. (Vegetarian families will sometimes use a beet instead). Lastly, the beitzah – a roasted or hard-boiled egg – stands for the offering made on every holiday in the days when the Temple stood.



Instructions:

- Take your large circle and lay it flat.
- Take your six smaller circles and arrange them around your large circle.
- You can place a label around each circle if you wish to write which each of the foods is.
- Use your third material to design each type of food, and place in each circle. Some example photos are included here.
- Add any final decorations to your Seder Plate, you can place this in the center of your table for a decoration.

