**Brief: Activity Book for Families in the United States –Society for the Protection of Nature in Israel**

An Israeli green activity book for all the family:

A simple, accessible activity book about Israeli nature, suitable for the whole family. The activity book will be divided according to the seasons of the year—fall, winter, spring, and summer. Activities will be organized according to the Hebrew calendar, so that each activity is suitable for a particular Israeli holiday.

Rationale: Jewish families in the Diaspora can encounter Israeli nature, according to the Hebrew calendar, without leaving the house.

Aims of the activity book:

1. A simple, experiential introduction to Israeli nature.
2. Learn about nature and the environment, with a special emphasis on the values of nature preservation in Israel.
3. An experiential introduction to Israeli fauna.
4. An introduction to Israeli nature as it relates to Israeli holidays and the seasons of the year, to create a connection between seasonal nature and the Israeli holidays that Diaspora Jews know, and thus create links between Israeli nature and the holiday customs that are familiar to Jewish communities around the world.
5. Learn about holiday traditions with a connection to Israeli nature.

Concept: Israeli celebrations—the activity book will present Israeli holidays within Israeli nature, to create connections between the seasons of the year, the weather, migration seasons, the colors of nature, the Hebrew calendar, and holiday traditions, set against a backdrop of Israeli landscapes.

The activities: the activities will be suitable for all age groups, simple, accessible, and instructional. Parents can carry out the activities with their children without any background knowledge: they can simply follow the instructions provided. For each holiday, there will be a set of activities that, together, will paint a broader picture of Israeli nature during that particular holiday.

**Example**:

Israeli nature on Hanukah:

1. Activities about flowers. (For example: the card game “Quartets” on the topic of flowers that bloom during the Hanukah season. Players collect four matching cards: a picture of the flower, its name in Hebrew, its name in English, and its matching story.)
2. Activities about weather. (For example: Hanukah is a winter holiday. Winters in Israel are characterized by rain—a picture of the water cycle in nature.)
3. Activities about trees. (For example: because Hanukah falls close to Christmas, we will get to know the coniferous tree species that grow in Israel. Draw a line between the picture of the tree and its name in English, and its name in Hebrew.)
4. Activities about a region or site that is appropriate to Hanukah—a kind of imaginary trip to Israel. (For example: a trip to the Tomb of the Maccabees, a short comic strip to color in that tells the story of an Israeli boy who goes on a trip to the Tomb of the Maccabees.)
5. Activities about animals—each time, we will learn about a different Israeli animal. (For example: a pull-out poster, one half of which is a photograph and on the other half is an illustration that can be colored in. Children should color in the illustration according to the colors in the picture. The name of the animal and some interesting facts about it will be provided on the reverse of the poster.)