

## NEWS RELEASE



### **PJ Library Partners with The JBI Library To Provide Braille Editions of Jewish Children's Books**

New York, Dec. 15, 2022 — [PJ Library](#) is partnering with [The JBI Library](#) (JBI) in New York to provide children's books about Jewish tradition and culture to blind and visually impaired children and adults.

This pilot program will enable families to read books together. Patrons can order a print version of four picture books: *The Peddler and the Baker*, *Hanukkah at Monica's*, *Until the Blueberries Grow*, and *Jeremy's Dreidel*. Each book will have a Braille transparency overlaying each text page.

"We are excited that this partnership makes cross-generational reading together possible through different accessibility options," said Livia Thompson, JBI's President. "It will make possible the inclusion of visually impaired and print-disabled children in the PJ Library program and also provide a means for visually impaired parents and grandparents to read to their sighted children and grandchildren."

Families interested in ordering these books may call (800) 433-1531 to order a print/Braille book, large print version, or Digital Talking Book to enjoy for a month. A Braille-only version is also available on demand.

[PJ Library](#) sends free high-quality storybooks and activities to families with kids from birth through age 12. These stories spark conversation and inspire the whole family to engage with what is most meaningful to them about being Jewish. The program, created by the [Harold Grinspoon Foundation](#), is made possible through partnerships with philanthropists and local Jewish organizations. To learn more and sign up, visit [pjlibrary.org](http://pjlibrary.org). And, visit the [PJ Library Hanukkah Hub](#) for more information about the Jewish holiday of lights, including family celebration tips, podcasts, printable recipes, activity ideas and book lists.

The JBI Library is the largest collection of Jewish interest materials in the world for individuals who cannot read standard print. For more than 90 years, JBI (established as The Jewish Braille Institute) has helped blind, visually impaired, reading disabled and physically handicapped individuals of all ages and backgrounds to participate fully in Jewish life and learning. The JBI Library provides books, periodicals, liturgical materials and more in Braille, Audio, and Large Print formats, all free of charge and delivered to patrons' doorsteps worldwide. To benefit from any of JBI's free services, contact JBI librarians at 1-800-433-1531 or [library@jbilibrary.org](mailto:library@jbilibrary.org). Visit [www.jbilibrary.org](http://www.jbilibrary.org) for more information.

Here is more information about the featured PJ Library books:

***Hanukkah at Monica's***

by Varda Livney

Ages 0-5

No one loves Hanukkah more than Monica. And celebrating the Festival of Lights — lighting candles, singing blessings, eating delicious fried foods, and playing dreidel — is even more fun with friends. Luckily, Monica has lots of friends, including a robot, a pirate — even a jellyfish! Who's going to arrive at her party next?

***The Peddler and the Baker***

written by Yael Molchadsky, illustrated by Liora Grossman

Ages 5-10

The poor peddler can't afford to buy the baker's fresh challah, so he contents himself with merely sniffing their tantalizing aroma — until the baker gets angry and demands payment for that, too. When the rabbi hears of the dispute, he comes up with an ingenious verdict.

***Until the Blueberries Grow***

written by Jennifer Kam and illustrated by Sally Walker

Ages 5-10

Until the blueberries grow . . . until the grapes are ripe . . . until the snow falls . . . until the flowers bloom . . . Ben tries to convince his great-grandfather to stay in his house just a little longer as the two celebrate a yearly cycle of Jewish holidays together.

***Jeremy's Dreidel***

Ages 5-10

written by Ellie Gellman and illustrated by Judith Friedman

At a dreidel-making workshop, Jeremy's friends think he's molding a secret code on his clay dreidel. But he's really making a special gift for his father, who is blind. How will he get his friends to appreciate his special dreidel?