



## ***Boker Tov! Good Morning!*** **By Rabbi Joe Black**

*Boker Tov! Good Morning!* From the moment our children are born, we hope that each day will be a new and wonder-filled experience for them, and as loving parents we do our best to make this hope a reality. Most families take on a bedtime ritual in an effort to ease their children's way into a gentle and peaceful night's sleep; Jewish parents may incorporate into this routine the repetition of the *Sh'ma*, the most basic and often-recited declaration of belief in one God. Yet in most households, where a hectic early morning rush is the norm, how do we help insure that each approaching day will be one in which our children feel joyful and grateful while making each moment count? The words in *Boker Tov* offer just such an opportunity. With a bit of extra planning you might make time for an occasional "morning read" of this book with your children. Keep in mind that PJ Library books may be enjoyed not only in the evening, but whenever there is time to connect with your children in the unique way that books afford. What a splendid way to start the day off right!

Upon reading *Boker Tov* for the first time, you will likely be struck by the rhymes and rhythms that dance between the covers. The youngest of babies will take pleasure in these before the actual words have real meaning for them. Consider further encouraging this sense of joyfulness with sounds and speech by introducing your children to the beauty of the Hebrew language. Beginning with just a word or phrase, something as simple as "*boker tov*" (good morning), "*lilah tov*" (good night), and "*shalom*" (hello, goodbye, peace) integrated into your daily routine can have a lasting impact on your child's Jewish learning and feeling of connectedness.

### **About The PJ Library®**

The PJ Library is an award-winning initiative of the Harold Grinspoon Foundation in partnership with your local Jewish Community. On a monthly basis, The PJ Library sends out high quality, age appropriate Jewish children's books to participating families across the country. Through providing these books, The PJ Library's goal is to help families explore the timeless core values of Judaism and to transmit these values to a new generation. To learn more about The PJ Library visit [www.pjlibrary.org](http://www.pjlibrary.org) or call your local community representative.