

# The Red Sea Sensory Bottle: Miriam's Edition

In the story of Passover, we often focus on the important role that Moses has, but what about his sister, Miriam? Miriam is present at the beginning of Moses' story, when she sees their mother save his life by placing him in a basket on the Nile River. Miriam reappears a few times during the Passover story, most memorably when she leads the celebratory song and dance after the Israelites cross the Red Sea.

Miriam is just one of the many female characters in the story of Passover that led to the eventual freedom of the Israelites. Others include Moses's mother, the pharaoh's midwives and the pharaoh's own daughter. Without each of these women, the story of Passover would look very different from the one we celebrate today.

This craft project honors the strong female characters who led us to freedom. The sensory bottle also doubles as a musical instrument for you and your family to use while dancing and singing in celebration of Passover!

## Supplies:

- Water bottle, empty and cleaned
- Water
- Food coloring (red or blue)
- Oil (preferably baby oil)
- Glitter
- Mini female toy figure (such as a LEGO)
- Assorted ribbons
- Pipe cleaner
- Craft bells (or hardware washers)
- Hot glue gun
- Tape (optional)



**1.**

Fill the empty bottle halfway with water.



**2.**

Add food coloring one drop at a time until you're happy with the color. (Red makes it a literal Red Sea, while blue makes it more realistic.)



**3.**

Add one to two teaspoons of glitter.



**4.**

Add baby oil, leaving enough empty space at the top for your mini figure to fit.



**5.**

Drop the mini figure in the bottle and fill any remaining space with oil.

**6.**  
Grown-up job: Dry the rim of the water bottle and the cap as best you can. Using a hot glue gun, glue around the rim of the bottle and quickly put the cap back on. This prevents the bottle from opening unexpectedly.



**7.**

Decorate the bottle with ribbons; tie, glue or tape them into place.



**8.**

String the craft bells or hardware washers on the pipe cleaner, then tie it around the bottle. (This addition can be removed at any time to create a quiet activity.)



**9.**

Shake well. Sing and dance just like Miriam did!



## Questions for Parents to Ask:

- Who was Miriam?
- What role did Miriam play in the story of Passover?
- How did the Israelites cross the Red Sea? How did this miracle happen?
- Why do you think the Israelites celebrated by singing and dancing after they crossed the Red Sea?

## Further Learning:

- Check out some age-appropriate books about Miriam (there are a lot of great ones!)
- Learn "[Miriam's Song](#)" and then sing it and dance along using your new sensory bottle!

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*This project was created exclusively for JewishBoston.com and CJP by Renee Henrich. Renee is an early childhood educator and owner of [Preshoodles](#), a small business offering fun and educational activity packs by mail for families with young children to do at home. She lives in Wayland with her husband, two sons and dog, Sparky.*

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