

A Sod Synagogue

There was just one more thing to do before we began to farm the land; we needed a synagogue!

All day Monday, every man helped to build a synagogue. The men sang as they worked.

At noontime the mothers brought lunch. Each family sat together on the ground. There was a wonderful lunch of corn-bread, eggs, salad and lots of good milk to drink.

Before dark, the synagogue was ready.

It had two large rooms: one room for praying and one room for the children's school. The women put beautiful curtains in the prayer room and the children made nice pictures for the school room.

We were so happy with our sod synagogue!

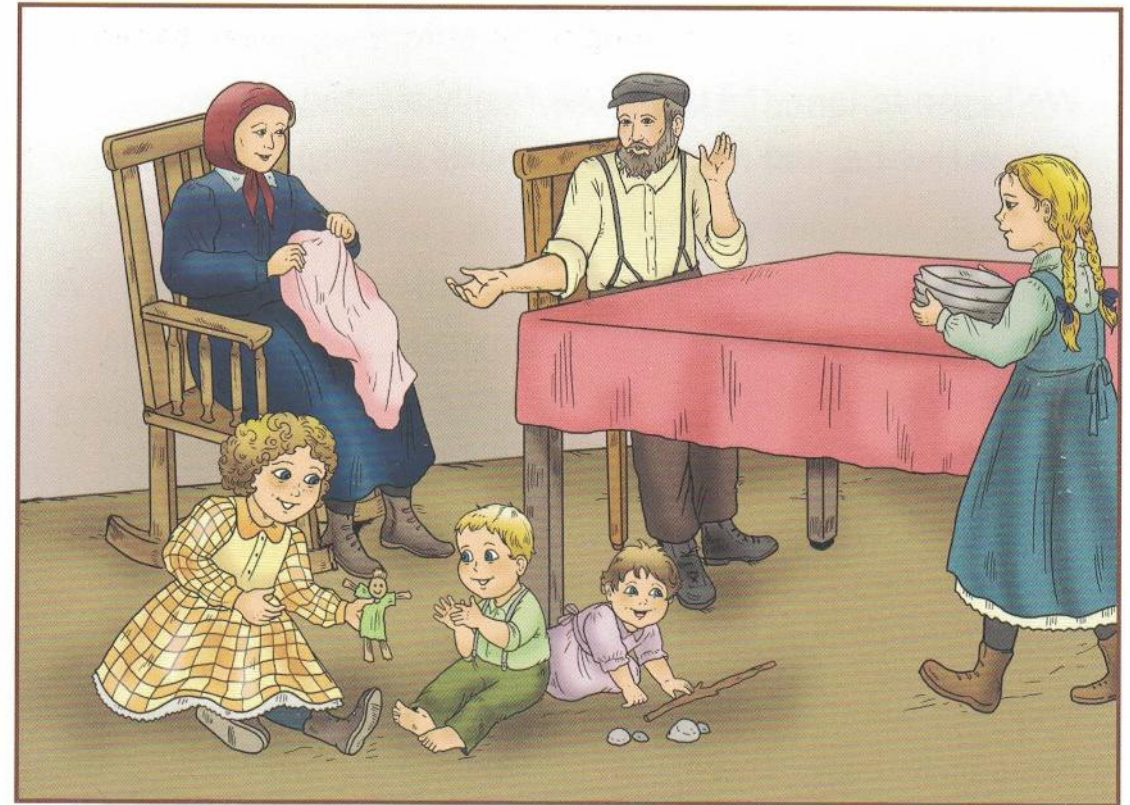
A Name for the Colony

The next day all the men came to the new school room. They had to speak about many important things. They also wanted to give our colony a name.

At home, we all waited for Papa to come back. When he finally came home, Molly jumped on him.

"Papa, Papa, what is the name of our colony?"

"I will tell you," said Papa.



"I'm sure you remember that when Yaakov *Avinu* went to Egypt[◊] with his sons they lived in a city called Goshen.

That's what we called our colony.

"I hope we live happily in Goshen until the day we will all go to live in the land of Israel!"

And that was the beginning of the Colony of Goshen.

[◊] Egypt – ארץ מצרים