

Bal Tashchit Takeaway

בל תשחית

- Pick up litter in your neighborhood, school or at synagogue
- Plant an indoor herb garden, or an outdoor garden if weather permits
- Go to a farmers market, or a farm and get fresh fruits and vegetables to eat
- If there is a stream near your home, go with your parents and clean up litter from around and in the stream
- Discuss with your family ways you may be wasteful in your home and how you can change those habits
- Read the Giving Tree by Shel Silverstein, how does this relate to taking care of our environment and not destroying
- Ask everyone in your home, or a class, to pick a 'cause' that represents this mitzvah i.e. save whales, don't litter, save water, recycle, etc.
- Research what items in your neighborhood are recyclable and either begin or increase how/what your family recycles
- Take a trip to a recycling center, and learn more about the process
- Collect several items that may be considered trash and create a piece of art with these recycled materials
- Brainstorm with your family what things other than saving the environment may fall under the heading of bal tashchit
- Help start a recycling program at your school, home, parents work, a business you frequent
- With your parents, arrange for an energy audit of your home
- Join an environmental group at your school
- Save your change and give tzedakah to an environmental group
- Find a park or organization that will let you plant trees
- Plant a tree in Israel through Jewish National Fund
- Celebrate Tu b'Shevat, the new year for the trees
- Develop a list of 3-5 ways your family can conserve water in your home and try to make these happen
- Recycle!
- Bring reusable fabric bags to the store when you shop
- Use paper and glass products to store food, lessen plastic and foil
- Visiting a nature center or local park.
- Draw a tree with branches, cut out leaves to glue on your tree, then on each leaf write something you will do to help the environment or waste less