

## Tu B'Shevat (New Year of the Trees) Word Search

See how many words you can find in the puzzle!

A W S Q Q E P G E F W Y C S L  
L C Y G E I O K O B E G X E M  
M Y Y R I D M Q N N O O N V S  
O Y T J A F E D V X G L U E B  
N L X D F U G I A V R O I N L  
D E S E P A R G Y T T C L Q F  
J E W S E O A B D Q E E I R K  
L A W M N P N I E P D S U Z S  
E N N M R B A B S F T I Y M E  
M R E U A H T N E E T F I F V  
Z N U R A A E B S H E V A T I  
T T L T V R S S P R I N G N L  
I E V E A I Y T R U U M J C O  
Y E H B W N C Y M O L E Q Z Q  
T S R E D E S T K F G M B D L

The words in the puzzle are:

ALMOND

BARLEY

BSHEVAT

DATES

ECOLOGY

ENVIRONMENT

FEBRUARY

FIFTEENTH

FIGS

FOUR

FRUIT

GRAPES

JANUARY

JEWS

NATURE

NEW

OLIVES

POMEGRANATES

SEDER

SEVEN

SHEVAT

SPECIES

SPRING

TREE

ARE YOU CURIOUS WHAT THESE WORDS ARE ALL ABOUT?

READ THE BRIEF SUMMARY ON THE NEXT PAGE. THE WORDS ARE IN **BOLD**.

TEXT TO ACCOMPANY TU B'SHEVAT WORD SEARCH  
(THE WORDS FROM THE PUZZLE ARE IN BOLD)

**Tu B'Shevat** is the **New Year of the Trees**. In the Jewish calendar, there are actually **four new years**.

You may be familiar with Rosh Hashanah, which is the New Year that **Jews** celebrate in September or October. But, Tu B'Shevat is celebrated in January or February. The name of the Hebrew month is **Shevat** and Tu (which means 15) is the **Fifteenth** day of the month of Shevat. Even though it may be cold where we live, by mid-January in Israel, **almond** trees are blossoming. Tu B'Shevat is a way to mark the beginning of **Spring**.

One of the ways that some Jews celebrate the holiday is to eat fruit that grows in Israel. The Bible mentions **Seven Species**, so many people enjoy them on Tu B'Shevat. They are: **barley, dates, figs, grapes, olives, pomegranates, and wheat**.

The meaning of the holiday has changed over time. Originally, people took portions of the fruit they had grown and brought them to the Temple in Jerusalem. But, once the Temple was destroyed in the year 70, Tu B'Shevat took on new meaning.

For some, Tu B'Shevat is connected to the rebirth of the Land of Israel and is a symbol of hope. Today, for many Jews, Tu B'Shevat has taken on importance as a holiday connected to **ecology** and the **environment**. We all remember that we have a responsibility in protecting **nature**.

Today some people have a Tu B'Shevat **seder**, which is similar to a Passover seder (a meal with a special order of events). So whether you plant a **tree**, or eat some **fruit**, or help clean up your neighborhood, or have a seder, Happy Tu B'Shevat!