Shofy and Blowfy - A Rosh Hashanah Story
By Mrs. Malkah Danziger

Grade Level: Early Childhood-Elementary

Description:
Delight a new generation of young children with the classic Rosh Hashanah story, Shofy and Blowfy, which was first published in 1978. In this story, 'malchus' and 'teshuvah' are presented through the prayers of two shofars, Shofy and Blowfy. There is a simple arts and crafts project at the end of the story.

Goals/Objectives:
Students will be familiarized with two basic concepts of Rosh Hashanah by reading the story and internalizing the message.

Instructions:
1. The pages may be used at the standard size or they may be enlarged to create a 'big book' effect.
2. Read the story together with the students, dramatizing and acting out the different parts of Shofy and Blowfy.
3. Discuss the concepts of malchus and teshuva that are raised in the story in an age-appropriate way.
4. Copies may be printed to send home with each child for Rosh Hashanah.
5. The teacher may want to have on hand two shofars, real or made of cards, for telling the story to use as props.

Variation:
- The teacher may want to connect the story with the Shofar project in the Sefer HaMitzvos/t: Mitzvah Curriculum Kit, also on chinuch.org.
A LITTLE TORAH CLASSIC

and

Written by Malkah Danziger
Illustrated by Frayda Fried
This third edition of Shofy and Blowfy is dedicated in memory of my father Rabbi Morris Goodman "ע"ה whose devotion to his community, his shul and family inspired this story.

Malkah Danziger
Once there were two shofars,

Shofy and Blowfy
Shofy was long and thin. He had a beautiful high voice. When he was blown, his T'kiah sounded like this, "Tooooooo0000."
Blowfy was short and fat. He had a lovely deep voice.

When he was blown, his T'kiah sounded like this, "T o o o o o o !"
There was one thing that Shofy and Blowfy each wanted more than anything else in the world. They each wanted to be blown in shul on Rosh Hashanah.
Every year Rabbi Goodman would choose either Shofy or Blowfy for that special mitzvah.
One year during the Elul month before Rosh Hashanah, the two shofars were especially anxious to be chosen.

As Shofy lay in his drawer in the storage room of the shul, he dovened* to Hashem**. He said in his high beautiful voice, “Hashem, please let me have the mitzvah of being blown this Rosh Hashanah.”

And Shofy would practice his T’kiah and Sh’vorim and T’ruah and T’kiah Gedolah for hours.

*T’kiah    Toooooooooooooooooo
Sh’vorim    Toooo  Toooo  Toooo
T’ruah      ToToTo  ToToTo  ToToTo
T’kiah Gedolah  Tooooooooooooooooooooooo

* prayed
** G-d
Blowfy lay next to Shofy in the drawer. He was also very anxious to be chosen. He too, dovened to Hashem. He said in his lovely deep voice, “Hashem, please let me have the mitzvah of being blown in shul this Rosh Hashanah.”

And Blowfy, in his lovely deep voice, would practice his T’kiah and Sh’vorim and T’ruah and T’kiah Gedolah for hours.
Everyday, except for Shabbos, Shofy and Blowfy practiced. You can imagine how nervous they were when it was two days before Rosh Hashanah, and Rabbi Goodman opened the door to their room to pick one of them.

Each one wanted the mitzvah of being blown on Rosh Hashanah. Each one would try his best to impress Rabbi Goodman.
At the same time though, each one felt a twinge of sadness in his heart that his friend might have to spend Rosh Hashanah in the drawer, alone and disappointed.

Rabbi Goodman picked up Shofy and Blowfy.

He decided to blow Shofy first.
What a clear and beautiful T'kiah Shofy made!
Rabbi Goodman then blew Blowfy.
Blowfy’s T'kiah was also very clear and beautiful.

Now Rabbi Goodman was puzzled. “I don’t know which one of you to pick,” he said. “You both sound so perfect.”
Rabbi Goodman stood thinking for a few minutes. “I know what I’ll do,” he said. “I’ll ask you a question and the one who answers it the best will be my shofar on Rosh Hashanah.”
Shofy and Blowfy quivered from excitement, anxiously awaiting Rabbi Goodman’s question. Rabbi Goodman said to Shofy, “Shofy, if I choose you, what are you going to be thinking about as you are being blown?”

Shofy knew right away what he would be thinking.

Shofy answered, “With each shofar sound, I am going to be thinking "HASHEM IS KING OF THE WHOLE WIDE WORLD AND THE HEAVENS ABOVE."
“Now Blowfy,” said Rabbi Goodman, “if I choose you, what will you be thinking about?” Blowfy looked seriously at Rabbi Goodman and said, “I’m going to be thinking

TIME TO DO T’SHUVA,
TIME TO DO T’SHUVA,
TIME TO SAY
I’M SORRY
AND I’LL BE GOOD.

For a moment, Rabbi Goodman stood speechless. He was so surprised by Shofy’s and Blowfy’s wonderful answers. (Which shofar do you think Rabbi Goodman picked?) Finally, Rabbi Goodman said, “You both have such wonderful thoughts. I’ve decided to take both of you to shul on Rosh Hashanah. Shofy, I’m going to use you on the first day of Rosh Hashanah. Blowfy, I’m going to use you on the second day of Rosh Hashanah.*

Shofy and Blowfy were so excited. They almost jumped for joy.

*When Rosh Hashanah comes out on Shabbos, we only blow shofar on the second day.
The first day of Rosh Hashanah came, and something very strange happened in shul. Shofy blew the most beautiful T'kiah and Sh'vorim and T'ruah and T'kiah Gedolah you ever heard. At the same time, though, the people dovening in shul seemed to hear something else. Can you guess what they heard?

The people thought they heard Shofy’s beautiful high voice singing

HASHEM IS KING
HASHEM IS KING
HASHEM IS KING
HASHEM IS KING
OF THE WHOLE WIDE WORLD
AND THE HEAVENS ABOVE.
Everyone looked at his neighbor in surprise. No one said anything, because you are not allowed to talk during dovening. But everyone could see from the look in his neighbors' eyes, that they had heard the same thing.
The second day of Rosh Hashanah came. Now it was Blowfy’s turn to have the mitzvah of being blown. Blowfy’s deep voice was better than ever as he blew the T’kiah sound, and the Sh’vorim sound, and the T’ruah sound, and finally the T’kiah Gedolah.

A strange thing happened though. Can you guess what it was?

The people thought they heard Blowfy’s lovely deep voice singing...

I’m sorry I called you a name.
I won’t do it again.
Will you forgive me?

TIME TO DO T’SHUVA
TIME TO DO T’SHUVA
TIME TO SAY
I’M SORRY AND I’LL BE GOOD.

The people in shul listened to Blowfy. They all decided that they would do T’shuva.
When Hashem sees that we all remember He is King and we all do T’shuvah, He blesses us with a good year.

You can imagine what kind of year the people in Rabbi Goodman’s shul were blessed with. For Shofy and Blowfy, there was an extra special blessing. They would get to live in a drawer of the Aron Kodesh, rather than is the storage room.
How thrilled Shofy and Blowfy were to live in the drawer, right below the Aron Kodesh.

Now they would be able to listen to the Torah when it was being read in shul, and they would be able to daven with the people in shul, too.

And just as you say Modeh Ani in the morning to thank Hashem for waking up, Shofy and Blowfy made up their own special Modeh Ani because they were fortunate enough to wake up every morning in a shul very close to the Sifrei Torah.

*THE END*
Shofy and Blowfy

Arts and Crafts

You can make your own Shofy and Blowfy.

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Color two pieces of paper. Roll each one, starting at a corner.
For Shofy, roll the paper along the long side.
For Blowfy roll the paper along the wide side.

1.  
2.  
3.

Tighten one end for the mouth piece - to blow from.
Put tape around your shofar and draw two eyes.
Then blow to your heart’s content!