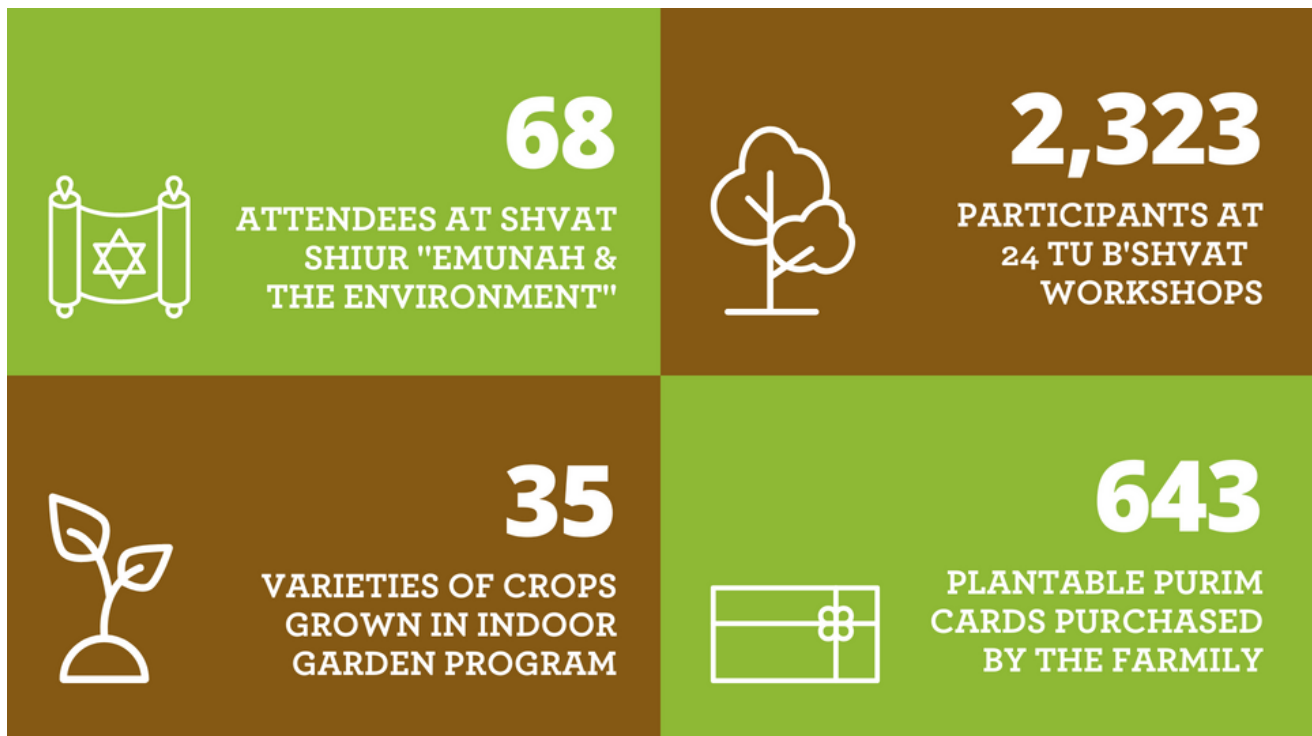




April 21, 2023 | 30 Nissan, 5783 | Q1: Jan - Mar

Welcome to the second year of Basadeh: GrowTorah Quarterly Field Reports, where we highlight our work at GrowTorah every three months. We use these to show you the impact your dollars have on our community and celebrate together with you. In addition, we want to hold ourselves accountable to you, our stakeholders. Please share your feedback with us!

Our winter was focused heavily on Tu B'Shvat programming, curriculum development, strategic planning, and professional development.



TU B'SHVAT ACROSS THE USA

Our Tu B'Shvat programs took us to five different states, working with 2,323 participants at 24 host organizations across the USA. Garden Educators Spence Weitzen and Menuchah Schuman led many of these workshops for their first time, which is a wonderful milestone we are incredibly proud of.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

In between these workshops, our team pursued several professional development opportunities. Sara Just-Michael received her certificate in Experiential Jewish Education from M2 - The Institute for Experiential Jewish Education. Farmer Yosef was accepted into Class 7 of The Wexner Field Fellowship, and participated in his first Institute there.





ENVIRONMENTAL TORAH DIGITAL LIBRARY

On Tu B'Shvat, we launched the GrowTorah Digital Library. This library is supported by the CBRAT Foundation, with work contributed by our summer Inchworms and the staff of Canfei Nesharim. Some features of the library include: 18 core environmental lessons, a special Q & A section on environmental and gardening halachot, and our weekly Parsha divrei Torah. Thousands of hours of research and writing have been put into this project, but that is just the beginning. As we launch this new endeavor, we are excited to see how much more expansive it can become. Our hope is that this new library paves the way for many more important conversations and actions in our community!

PILOT PROGRAM: INDOOR GARDENING AT SAR

Throughout the winter, Farmer Menuchah piloted our first-ever indoor growing garden at SAR's Gan Ilan. Each week students studied lessons from the weekly parsha, while tending to over 35 varieties of crops. Some of these crops were grown as microgreens and enjoyed in the school's salad bar after just two weeks of growth. After the microgreens, the students started seedlings for the outdoor garden which were planted in the early spring. We hope to replicate this program next winter with more partner schools. Thank you, SAR for piloting with us!



TESTIMONIALS FROM OUR TU BSHVAT WORKSHOPS:

"This event was phenomenal, and despite my high hopes and expectations, it exceeded them. Everybody had a fantastic time, there was so much excitement, and it all went... perfectly."

Congregation Darchei Noam, Fairlawn, NJ

"Thank you so much for this! The program has been truly fantastic- Menuchah and her team are so engaging and really created a wonderful experience for the children! Thank you!"

The Ramaz School, New York, NY

