

## Ethiopia Worksheet



### Passport to Peoplehood

Jews are a multicultural people who live around the world.

### Big Ideas:

1. For Ethiopian Jews, going to Israel meant leaving behind not only their country but their material things.
2. People who migrate from one country to another cannot take all of their belonging with them when they move.
3. What we decide to take with us and what we have to leave behind says a great deal about what is important to us.

## Ethiopia Worksheet

### MIGRATION: I'm moving to another country and I'm taking...

Jews have moved around the world throughout history. Sometimes they left for trade, but sometimes they left because they were forced to for their own safety. No matter what, they could not bring everything they owned.

In the 1980s, when the first large groups of Ethiopian Jews left Ethiopia to fulfill the ancient longing to return to Jerusalem and to find a better life, they had to walk 400 miles to Sudan. There they waited before they were able to board planes to Israel. Because they were traveling on foot, they could only take what they could carry. Judaism was often at the core of what came with people when they moved. Ethiopian Jews often brought religious items like the Orit, the Ethiopian translation of the Torah, clothing, food and little else when they set out to Sudan.

Imagine that you have to leave your home quickly and walked 400 miles to a new country. People can only take certain things with them when they move. You are leaving on foot, so you can only bring as much as you can carry.

See the following page, where students can illustrate items that are important to them. Then discuss the following questions:

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#### Discussion Questions

1. Was it hard or easy to choose what to take and what to leave behind?
2. Go around the room and share one thing you decided to take and why?
3. Did your choices have anything in common? If so, why?
4. Did anyone else's choices surprise you? Did you change your mind after seeing what other people chose?
5. Go around the room and share one thing you couldn't take and why?

## Ethiopia Worksheet

Imagine that you have to leave your home quickly and walked 400 miles to a new country. People can only take certain things with them when they move. You are leaving on foot, so you can only bring as much as you can carry. Judaism was often at the core of what came with people when they moved. What six things would you pack in your backpack? Draw or write them here:

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|  |  |  |

When people move from one country to another there are many things that they cannot take with them. Write down three things that you could not take with you if you moved to another country and explain why you would miss those things:

### What I can't take with me:

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_