

JNF UK Secondary Schools Tu Bishvat Photograph Competition



The New Year for trees is the 15th day of the Jewish month of Shvat. In gematria – a Hebrew system that gives numerical values to letters – Tu, 17U in Hebrew, is the equivalent of 15, hence the name "Tu Bishvat."

According to the Talmud, the rainy season in Israel starts a few weeks before Tu Bishvat. When Tu Bishvat arrives, enough rain has fallen to make the soil fertile and the trees able to bear fruit.

Tu Bishvat is commonly celebrated by eating fruit especially the Shivat Haminim—the seven special species linked to the Land of Israel. Many people eat 15 different fruit as Tu Bishvat is on the 15th of Shevat.

Additionally, there is a variety of Tu Bishvat customs that have developed over the generations, such as getting in touch with nature and planting trees. Appreciating the vast function of trees in our world. All of these are ways to enjoy the natural world and to increase our awareness of Hashem's gift of nature. Tu Bishvat can also be used as a powerful time to strengthen our commitment to taking better care of our planet, Earth.

There is only **one** rule for this simple to enter competition with a **great prize** of a complete kit to build your own **real working camera**, plus have a tree planted in your name in Israel.

Just take a photograph related to Tu Bishvat

-  Use your imagination
-  Be artistic
-  Be creative



Even during lockdown, you are allowed one walk a day. Take a camera with you and investigate your local area, You'll be surprised what you can find.



Think about taking photographs from different angles.



Make a photo-collage.



There is more to Tu Bishvat than just trees.



So if you are shielding or self-isolating, have a look around your home and see what you can find .



To qualify for entry to the competition, your Tu Bishvat photograph must be emailed to jnsmartgivinggrants@jnf.co.uk by 5.30pm on Tuesday 2nd February. Please include your name, age and school. I Look forward to seeing your photographs.