This week, through Passover Trivia for Kids, we'll be focusing on the story of Passover. Next week, we will focus on the seder and other Passover rituals and customs.

## The Passover Story

## **Chapter Two: The Birth of Moses**

Levi's grandson, Amram, married a woman named Yocheved, and they had three children.

Their first child was a girl named Miriam, who later became a great prophetess of the Jewish people.

The second child was Aaron, who later became the high priest (Kohen Gadol) of G-d, famous for his extraordinary love of peace. Next to his brother Moses, he was the greatest leader of the Jewish people in his time.

It was Amram's youngest son Moses who was destined to lead the Israelites from Egypt and to receive for them the Torah on Mount Sinai.

The day approached when, according to the Egyptian astrologers, the liberator of the Jews was to be born. Since they did not know whether he

would be born into a Jewish or Egyptian family, King Pharoh decreed that all boys born that day were to be thrown into the water.

On this day, the seventh of Adar, Yocheved gave birth to her third child, a boy. Right from the first moment of his birth, it became clear that he was a very special child, for the house filled with a bright, shining light. His parents tried everything possible to keep him from being discovered by Pharaoh's men, who were constantly searching for newborn Jewish children.

After three months, Yocheved saw that she would not be able to hide her child any longer. She therefore made a small, water-proof basket in which she put her baby, and then she set him down among the reeds growing at the edge of the Nile River. While Yocheved tearfully returned home, her daughter Miriam stayed nearby to watch the baby.

The day was hot, and King Pharaoh's daughter, Princess Batya, came out to the river, accompanied by her maids, to take a bath in the cool waters of the Nile. Suddenly, she heard the wailing of a small child. She found the basket, and in it, an infant boy.

Struck by the baby's beauty, Batya tried to figure out a way to keep him for herself and save him from death because she realized that this boy must be one of the children born to a Jewish family and meant to be drowned.

The child refused to be nursed by any of the Egyptian women who tried to feed him, and as he continued to cry, Miriam- who'd been watching from behind the reeds- walked over to the princess. She offered to find a Jewish nurse for the baby, who would feed him and look after him as long as he needed. Batya was thankful for this solution, and Miriam rushed home and brought her mother, who was also an experienced nurse.

For two years the baby was left in his mother's care. Meanwhile, Batya told Pharaoh about the boy she had found and adopted. Her father did not object, even though the baby was Jewish, because his astrologers had told him that the one who, according to the stars, had been destined to free the Jews from Egypt had already been put into the water.

At the age of two, Moses was taken from Yocheved to the royal court, where he grew up as the adopted son of King Pharaoh's daughter.

Additional resource: Click <u>here</u> to watch an entertaining video about Passover.