

By: **Nick Bland and Stephen Michael King**
Illustrations: **Nick Bland and Stephen Michael King**
Publisher: מ' מזרחי
Age Group: **Preschool (4-6)**

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Family Activities

You may want to look at the illustrations that accompany the story together, and notice the many details that are not specified in the text. What do you think of Bonny's ideas and Pop's inventions?

You could invent, plan and build your own "magnificent tree" using building blocks or Lego, or various objects around the house or yard. Are "all sorts of things jutting out" of your work too? Send us a picture of your magnificent tree, we'd be happy to post it on our website.

Bonny and Pop realized that birds were attracted to trees and looked for an idea that would encourage the birds to visit them. The story may inspire you to make a bird feeder together: rinse a large, empty bottle thoroughly, cut a large opening out on one end of it, hang it in the balcony or on a nearby tree, and fill it up with pieces of cut fruit, seeds and breadcrumbs. Follow the birds, watching quietly from afar as they approach the bird feeder and eat from it.

"Bonny and Pop always had lots of ideas..." Little children often have big ideas and original thoughts. You may want to tell your child about some important inventors, in

Israel and around the world, and remind them that they too were once children, brimming with ideas. Together you could think of a situation in your own lives that you'd like to change, and make suggestions. Are your ideas implementable?

"Just as their faces are not identical to one another, so their opinions are not identical to one another" (according to the Midrash on the Book of Numbers, chapter 21): family members and friends do not always think or act the same way, and sometimes differences in style and character can bother us. You may want to remind each other of each of your family members' special talent and inclinations, and make note of the unique contribution each one makes.

Does your child have a special connection with a grandparent, aunt or uncle, like Bonny does? You may want to sit your child down with a beloved family member and invite them to engage in an activity that requires cooperation, such as putting together a jigsaw puzzle, or even baking a cake. How well did they work together? Did they have similar ideas or different ones? Remember, none of this matters, as long as we have fun spending time together!

www.pjisrael.org **More activities on the Pajama Library website**