

What the Sorry Names

Eight activities

Activity 1: Count what it names

From the story, write Menucha's first apology and her second apology side by side. What does each one name - people, objects, causes, changes? What does the first one protect, and what does the second one carry?

Activity 2: The money offer

Why does Menucha offer money for cards that money cannot replace? What is the offer really trying to end? When a repair offer is about the apologizer's comfort, how can the wronged person tell?

Activity 3: The inventory comes first

Before her second apology, Menucha asks Rifky to list the six cards - "not to make it better. I want to know what I broke." Why must the inventory come BEFORE the apology? What happens to a sorry that skips it?

Activity 4: Repair arithmetic (all numbers made up for practice)

A complete repair has 4 parts: name the harm, name the cause, name the change, do the repair the wronged person chooses. Each loud "I'm sorry" adds 0 parts. If someone says sorry 5 times and then does 3 of the 4 parts - names the harm, names the cause, and names the change - how many parts are done? Which part is still missing, and what does the arithmetic NOT capture?

Activity 5: "Her part is hers"

Menucha stops waiting for Rifky's warmth and calls the waiting "reaching across somebody else's table." What does she mean? What is the difference between repairing something and being owed forgiveness for repairing it?

Activity 6: Draw the table

Draw Bubby's kitchen table during dictation: the lace cloth, the card supplies, the slow careful work. Only what can be seen - no labels for feelings. Caption with one line from the story.

Activity 7: Faiga's brother's binder - a fictional case

A teen named Faiga borrows her brother's new binder without asking, rips the cover badly, and says "I'm sorry!" four times while offering her allowance. Write: the inventory question she should ask first, the specified apology (harm, cause, change), and one thing she might say to learn what repair he actually wants. One sentence each, with names.



Activity 8: Word grid

Find eight words left to right. Row/column numbering begins at 1.

The eight words: MENUCHA, RIFKY, CARDS, SPILL, SORRY, BUBBY, COPIED, REPAIR.

M	E	N	U	C	H	A	B	F	Y
R	I	F	K	Y	M	N	O	R	S
C	A	R	D	S	I	Q	Z	X	J
S	P	I	L	L	Y	G	H	U	P
S	O	R	R	Y	S	T	C	D	E
B	U	B	B	Y	J	K	V	W	B
C	O	P	I	E	D	L	M	N	O
R	E	P	A	I	R	A	I	Q	Z
X	J	K	V	W	B	F	Y	G	H
U	P	L	M	N	O	R	S	T	C