

PALEO PUZZLE



CASE #2

This inscription, known as the **Gezer Calendar**, was discovered at Tel Gezer and dates to around the 10th century BC, during the time of the early monarchy in ancient Israel. It is one of the oldest Hebrew inscriptions ever found and is written in Paleo-Hebrew. The text describes the agricultural activities carried out during each month of the year and likely served as a school exercise, a farmer's record, or a teaching tool for young scribes.

Your task is to carefully examine each Paleo-Hebrew letter and rewrite the given portion of the text using today's (modern) Hebrew script, then provide an English translation (a glossary with the meaning of each Hebrew word is provided). Some portions of the inscription are worn or unclear, requiring close attention when identifying the letters. If you're unsure of a character, use the letter key at the bottom to help you.

A full translation of the inscription is provided on the final page so you can check your work, along with space to illustrate one of the agricultural activities mentioned in the inscription.

DIRECTIONS

1 →

- 1 1 1 1 1 1 1
- 2 2 2 2 2 2 2
- 3 3 3 3 3 3 3
- 4 4 4 4 4 4 4
- 5 5 5 5 5 5 5
- 6 6 6 6 6 6 6
- 7 7 7 7 7 7 7

3 →

1	
2	
3	
4	
5	
6	
7	

← 2

1	
2	
3	
4	
5	
6	
7	

4 →

קצ	SUMMER
דו"ה	WAS
אל	TOWARDS

שערס	BARLEY
וכל	WHEAT
זכר	PRUNING

עצ	CUTTING
פשת	FLAX
קצר	HARVESTING

(1) ידל	MONTH
אספ	GATHERING
ידע	SEED
ללש	LATE SOWING

- 1: INSCRIPTION
- 2: YOUR TRANSCRIPTION
- 3: YOUR TRANSLATION
- 4: GLOSSARY

TRANSCRIPTION GUIDE

Paleo-Hebrew	Modern Hebrew
𐤀	א
𐤁	ב
𐤂	ג
𐤃	ד
𐤄	ה
𐤅	ו
𐤆	ז
𐤇	ח
𐤈	ט
𐤉	י
𐤊	כ/ד

Paleo-Hebrew	Modern Hebrew
𐤌	ל
𐤍	מ
𐤎	נ/ו
𐤏	ס
𐤐	ע
𐤑	פ/ף
𐤒	צ/ץ
𐤓	ק
𐤔	ר
𐤕	ש
𐤖	ת

THE GEZER CALENDAR

1 ḡḡḡḡ ḡḡḡ ḡḡḡ 1
wḡḡ ḡḡḡḡ oḡ 2
ḡwḡ ḡḡo ḡḡḡ 3
ḡḡow ḡḡḡ ḡḡḡ 4
ḡḡḡ ḡḡḡ ḡḡḡ 5
ḡḡḡ ḡḡḡḡ 6
ḡḡ ḡḡḡ 7

1 →

3 →

1	
2	
3	
4	
5	
6	
7	

← 2

1	
2	
3	
4	
5	
6	
7	

4 →

שעורים	BARLEY
ובל	WHEAT
זמר	PRUNING

קץ	SUMMER
	FRUIT

יָדָה (1)	MONTH
סוף	GATHERING
זרע	SOWING
לְאִשׁ	LATE SOWING

לְאִשׁ	CUTTING
פֶּשֶׁת	FLAX
קָצִיר	HARVESTING

- 1: INSCRIPTION
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- 4: GLOSSARY

TRANSLATION

Month of gathering	Month of s
owing	Month of late sowing
Month of cutting	flax
Month of harvesting	barley
Month of harvesting and measuring	grain
Month of pruning	
Month of summer fruit	

DRAW A PICTURE OF THE EVENT!

