בס"ד

 **Middah Master Lesson 7**

**רַחֲמִים – Rachamim (Compassion, kindness, empathy)**
Opposite: אַכְזָרִיוּת – Achzariyus (cruelty, coldness).

## Case 1: The Forgotten Snack

The bell rang for recess, and boys opened their bags to eat. Shlomo pulled out his sandwich and an apple. Across the bench, Levi sat quietly with nothing in front of him.

It didn’t take long for Shlomo to notice. Levi wasn’t reaching for anything, and his eyes stayed down. Shlomo guessed he had forgotten his snack.

Rachamim is not only about feeling sorry — it’s about noticing another person’s need and doing something kind. Shlomo had food, and Levi didn’t.

Solve it: What should Shlomo do?

* A) Offer part of his snack to Levi so he won’t feel left out. (✅ Best – This shows Rachamim, sharing kindness with someone in need.)
* B) Eat his snack quickly so Levi won’t notice. (❌ Not good – This ignores compassion.)
* C) Point out loudly to the group that Levi forgot his snack. (❌ Not good – This embarrasses him instead of helping.)

## Case 2: The Struggling Reader

In Chumash class, the Rebbi asked Dovid to read a pasuk. Dovid tried, but he stumbled again and again. A couple of boys smirked and whispered to each other.

Moshe felt his stomach tighten. He remembered how it felt the last time *he* made a mistake in front of the class. Everyone’s eyes watching. The heat in his face. The sound of giggles.

Rachamim means stepping in with kindness when someone is weak or embarrassed. Moshe had a choice: join the laughter, stay silent, or show support.

Solve it: What should Moshe do?

* A) Smile at Dovid and quietly say, “You can do it.” (✅ Best – This shows Rachamim, offering support and kindness.)
* B) Join in laughing with the other boys. (❌ Not good – This is cruel and discouraging.)
* C) Stay silent and hope Rebbi stops calling on Dovid. (⚠️ Okay – At least not hurtful, but it misses the chance to show compassion.)

## Teacher’s Note

Rachamim means more than just feeling bad for someone—it means taking action to help or comfort. Shlomo showed Rachamim by sharing his snack, and Moshe showed it by supporting his friend when he struggled. Cruelty pushes people down, but Rachamim lifts them up.

## Quick Facilitation Tips

* Compassion Circle: Go around and have each boy share one way someone showed him kindness. Connect to Rachamim.
* Role-Play: One boy pretends to struggle with reading. Others practice showing support with kind words instead of laughing.
* Exit Ticket: Write one way you showed Rachamim today.