Tu B’Shvat Clay Pot Planter

Supplies:  
clay pots  
ceramic underglaze colors  
clear glaze  
acrylic paints  
cheap brushes #4, #6, ½”  
fresh leaves or drawings (see below)

For underglaze decorating, you may use the glazes free hand to draw your design, in this case Israeli leaves. If you like, paint the leaf heavily and press on a clean pot. Paint the vein-y side of the leaf, so all the markings will show when you press them to the pot. There should be room for 2 or 3 leaves on the sides of a 4” pot. If you can have the clay pot fired with the underglaze, it should be fired at cone .017. You may want to write In Honor of Tu B’Shvat on the rim of the pot.

Take the fired piece and, using the ½” brush, lightly cover the pot with clear glaze. Until fired, it will look like it’s covered with a light film. Have it fired to cone .06 or whatever temperature the glaze calls for.

With acrylic paints, you can run wild with designs, but you cannot put the pieces in the oven to bake in, as you can the glazed pieces.

Fill with bokser and raisins and nuts in honor of Tu B’Shvat.

Below are some plants and flowers which you may wish to use. They come to us through the courtesy of the American Society for the Protection of Nature in Israel.

Species of hart’s tongue fern

Oriental plane tree