Sukkot in Russia, 1916 - Worksheet

Meet the photo
● Take a brief look at the photo. What do you notice first?
● Type of photo (check all that apply):
  • Portrait  • Architectural  • Candid
  • Landscape  • Event  • Documentary
  • Aerial/Satellite  • Family  • Selfie
  • Action  • Panoramic  • Other
  • Posed

● Is there a caption?
● What is the main focus of the photograph?

Observe its parts
● Describe the street.
● Describe the buildings.
● What is unusual about the houses?
● Write one sentence summarizing this photo.

Make sense of it
● What festival do think is being celebrated at the time that the photograph was taken?
● The photograph was taken in Russia in 1916. What was life like for Jews at that time?
● Is it permissible, according to Jewish law, to build a sukkah like the ones in the photograph?
● What are some advantages of having a sukkah in your own home?
● What are some disadvantages of having a sukkah in your own home?
● Considering the physical environment of the street and the Jew’s social situation in Russia at that time, suggest three reasons why the sukkot were constructed in the way that you see in the photograph.

Use it as historical evidence
● What did you find out from this photo that you might not learn anywhere else?
● What other documents, photos, or historical evidence will you use to help you understand this event or topic?

How did it go? Let us know! learning@nli.org.il
Postcard, Sukkot in Russia, 1916