Bereshit
בְּרֵאשִׁית

Lesson 1

Our first 5 letters

Alef, Bet, Gimel, Dalet and He



Hebrew reads from right to left

ה	ד	ג	ב	א
He	Dalet	Gimel	Bet	Alef

Start on the right, like this: Alef, Bet, Gimel, Dalet, He.

letter 1 of 22

Alef

Alef is quiet *it holds a vowel sound*



אָב

av: father



How to write it

1. A long slanted line from the top left to the bottom right
2. A short arm at the top right, touching the line
3. A short leg at the bottom left, touching the line

letter 2 of 22

Bet

Bet says “b”

without the dot, Vet says v



בַּיִת

ba-yit: house



How to write it

1. A line across the top, then straight down the right side
2. A line along the bottom, sticking out a little past the corner

letter 3 of 22

Gimel

Gimel says “g” *as in goat*



גָּמָל

ga-mal: camel



How to write it

1. A short line down, leaning a little
2. A small foot kicking out to the left at the bottom

letter 4 of 22

Dalet

Dalet says “d” *as in dog*



דָּג

dag: fish



How to write it

1. A line across the top, sticking out past the right side
2. A straight line down from the right end

letter 5 of 22

He

He says “h” *as in hat*



הַר

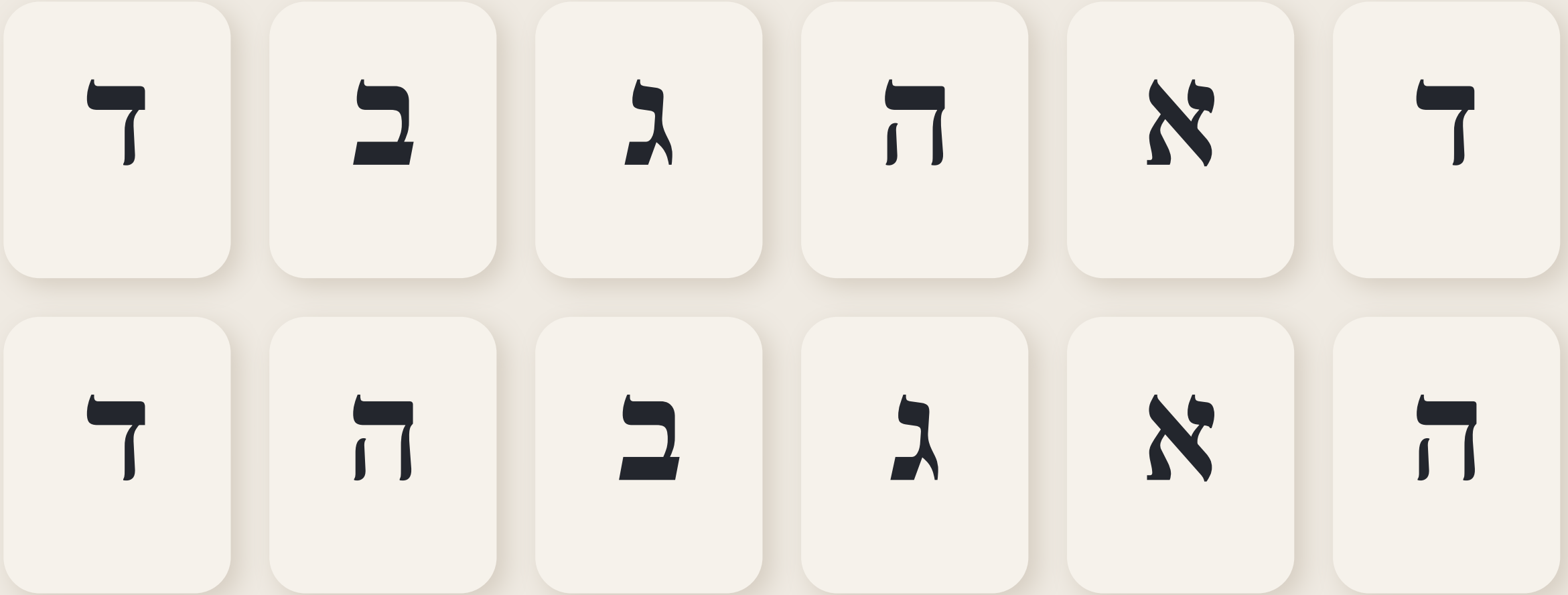
har: mountain



How to write it

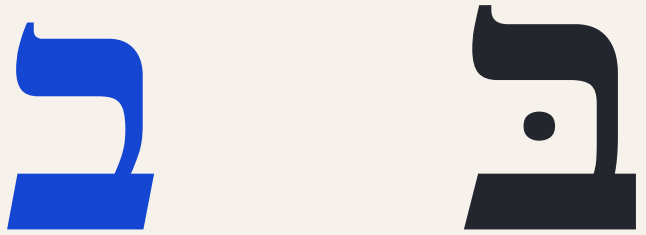
1. Like Dalet: a line across the top, then down the right side
2. A short leg on the left, with a gap at the top (do not touch the roof)

Point and say: which letter is it?

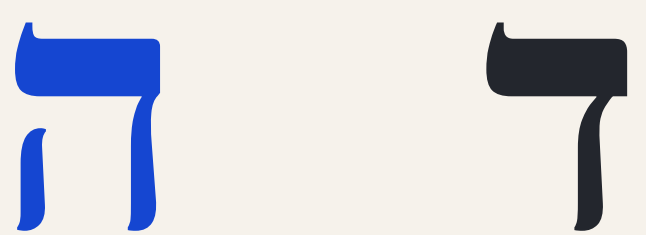


Take turns. Say the name and the sound.

Careful: these two look alike



Bet with a dot says b. Without the dot it is Vet and says v.



Dalet has one leg. He has two legs, and the left leg does not touch the roof.

Your turn: write the letter

Your turn

grab a pencil!

1. Listen for a letter name.
2. Write the letter in the next box.
3. Hold it up to show everyone.
4. Check: did you start on the right side?



The very first letter of the Bible

GENESIS 1:1 (FIRST WORDS)

בְּרֵאשִׁית בָּרָא אֱלֹהִים

בְּרֵאשִׁית	בָּרָא	אֱלֹהִים
In the beginning	created	God

Find a Bet. Find an Alef. Find a He. How many Bets can you see?

after the lesson

This week

Practice

א ב ג ד ה

- One letter sheet a day: Alef, Bet, Gimel, Dalet and He
- Then read all five out loud

Every day

- 5-minute flashcards with the five letters
- Say the name and the sound

Next lesson

- Four new letters: Vav, Zayin, Chet, Tet
- Our first vowel: the 'a' sound
- Then we can read ba, ga, da!