



Chanukah





Chanukah Learning Objectives

Reception

Story of Chanukah

- ✓ **Know** the basic story of Chanukah.
- ✓ **Recognise** that Hashem helped the Jewish people to win the war.
- ✓ **Understand** that we celebrate the miracle of the oil that lasted for eight days.

Celebrating Chanukah

- ✓ **Know** Chanukah lasts eight days.
- ✓ **Understand** we light the chanukiah, adding another candle each night.
- ✓ **Know** we play with a dreidel and eat latkes and doughnuts.

Year 1

Chanukah Characters

- ✓ **Be familiar** with the main characters of the Chanukah story and their roles: Matityahu, Antiochus and the Maccabees.
- ✓ **Know** that the Jewish people were forbidden to keep the Torah and mitzvot by the ancient Greeks.
- ✓ **Identify** the reason why we play with a dreidel.
- ✓ **Appreciate** the miracle of the oil and how it lasted for eight days instead of one.

Chanukah Symbols

- ✓ **Know** that we light a chanukiah at the window and recite brachot beforehand.
- ✓ **Recognise** that a chanukiah has eight lights plus a shamash which is on a different level.
- ✓ **Know** we eat fried foods, such as latkes and doughnuts, on Chanukah to remind us of the miracle of the oil.
- ✓ **Be familiar** with how the game of dreidel is played and what happens when it lands on each of the four letters.

Year 2

The Beit Hamikdash

- ✓ **Understand** what the Beit Hamikdash is and appreciate its importance to the Jewish people.
- ✓ **Recognise** that the menorah in the Beit Hamikdash was lit with olive oil every day by the Kohen Gadol.
- ✓ **Know** that the ancient Greeks and their supporters made the Beit Hamikdash impure and placed idols in it.
- ✓ **Know** that after the war the Jewish people restored the Beit Hamikdash and found the last bottle of oil with the seal of the Kohen Gadol.

Miracle of the Oil

- ✓ **Recognise** the differences between the menorah in the Beit Hamikdash and the chanukiah.
- ✓ **Be familiar** with the process of how pure oil for the Beit Hamikdash was made.
- ✓ **Appreciate** why the oil lasting for eight days was such a great miracle.
- ✓ **Know** how we remember and celebrate the miracle of the oil.

Year 3

The Jewish Victory

- ✓ **Know** the Jewish people hid in caves to learn Torah and keep the mitzvot.
- ✓ **Identify** that the war began with Matityahu defying the orders of the ancient Greeks.
- ✓ **Know** the Maccabees attacked the ancient Greeks from caves for 25 years.
- ✓ **Appreciate** how Hashem helped the Jewish army to be victorious over the ancient Greek soldiers.

The Chanukiah

- ✓ **Be able** to identify the differences between a kosher and non-kosher chanukiah.
- ✓ **Know** why and how one lights the chanukiah.
- ✓ **Be familiar** with the brachot for lighting the chanukiah and the first verse of Ma'oz Tzur.
- ✓ **Know** what the four letters on the dreidel stand for, and the difference between a dreidel inside and outside of Israel.

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Celebrating Chanukah

Year 1

Chanukah Characters

Chanukah Symbols

Year 2

The Beit Hamikdash

Miracle of the Oil

Year 3

The Jewish Victory

The Chanukiah

Year 4

The Maccabees

Prayer and Faith

Year 5

Jewish Heroes

Publicising the Miracle

Year 6

Hellenism vs Judaism

Jewish Pride



Year 4

The Maccabees

- ✓ **Know** the Hebrew date and meaning of the word - Chanukah.
- ✓ **Understand** the meaning of the word Maccabee, and identify Yehudah as the leader.
- ✓ **Appreciate** the expression 'many in the hands of few', the courage of the Maccabees against the ancient Greeks, and what we can learn from this today.
- ✓ **Be able** to retell the Chanukah story, and how it is celebrated.

Prayer and Faith

- ✓ **Know** that Chanukah is a Rabbinic festival and that we add special prayers.
- ✓ **Know** when we light the chanukiah and why we use the shamash.
- ✓ **Appreciate** the importance of both prayer and action in difficult times.
- ✓ **Recognise** that it was faith in Hashem that helped the Jewish people win the war.

Year 5

Jewish Heroes

- ✓ **Know** the historical and geographical context of the Chanukah story.
- ✓ **Be familiar** with the stories of Chanukah heroes such as Yehudit and Matityahu.
- ✓ **Appreciate** what makes a hero and understand how we can be a modern day Jewish hero.
- ✓ **Identify** some modern Jewish heroes, what their challenges were and how they overcame them.

Publicising the Miracle

- ✓ **Know** what is a miracle and be able to identify other miracles in Jewish history.
- ✓ **Understand** the difference between a miracle within nature and a miracle beyond nature.
- ✓ **Appreciate** how and why we publicise the miracles of Chanukah.
- ✓ **Be able** to recite the three brachot for Chanukah candles.

Year 6

Hellenism vs Judaism

- ✓ **Recognise** the attraction of the Hellenistic culture and its impact on the Jewish people.
- ✓ **Understand** the prohibitions of King Antiochus and how some Jewish people defied his laws to keep their faith.
- ✓ **Appreciate** how Jewish people can maintain a strong Jewish identity and practise their Judaism in today's culture.
- ✓ **Know** how to lead a chanukiah lighting ceremony and be able to read Hanerot Halalu, Ma'oz Tzur and Al Hanisim.

Jewish Pride

- ✓ **Understand** that a central theme of Chanukah is Jewish pride, and publicising the miracle.
- ✓ **Know** when and how we can stand up for being Jewish.
- ✓ **Appreciate** why we are proud to be Jewish and identify ways we can represent Jewish people in a positive way.
- ✓ **Be able** to explain how and why we celebrate Chanukah.

Reception Story of Chanukah Celebrating Chanukah	Year 1 Chanukah Characters Chanukah Symbols	Year 2 The Beit Hamikdash Miracle of the Oil	Year 3 The Jewish Victory The Chanukiah	Year 4 The Maccabees Prayer and Faith	Year 5 Jewish Heroes Publicising the Miracle	Year 6 Hellenism vs Judaism Jewish Pride
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