

Hanukkah @ Home



ACTIVITIES



2702 Arbor Drive, Madison WI 53711 • 608-238-3123 • tbemadison.org

TBE Hanukkah Team 2020: Sue Center, Aleeza Hoffert, Glenn Karlov, Steve LaBelle, Katie Parrish, Julie Swedarsky, Liz Whitesel, Sara Wisdom. Contributors: Betsy Abramson, Tanya Anderson, Linda Berman, Rabbi Jonathan Biatch, Ken Felz, Sue Golden, Laurel Hefty, Nicole Jahr, Dale Kaufman, Marilyn Kupferberg, Stefanie Kushner, Bettine Lipman, Jill Maidenberger, Kathy Mazur, Cantor Jacob Niemi, Melissa Osborne, Kari Riley, Shelley Schwarz, Eve Siegel, Ellie Silver, Barb Spitz, Deena Williams.



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WHAT'S YOUR FAVORITE JEWISH MEMORY OR TRADITION?

Our members share.

“ We are fortunate to have my parents' menorah, my grandparent's menorah and my husband's parents and grandparents' menorahs. We light them all at Hanukkah and remember them all. ”

“ “ **BETTINE LIPMAN**

“ My Aunt Amy and Uncle Art gave me one of those big plastic dreidels every Hanukkah and filled it with Hanukkah gelt. It was such a simple gift, but so special getting that big dreidel every year that popped open. I have continued the tradition with my own children. ”

“ “ **MELISSA OSBORNE**

“ Our family always lit the candles each night in the darkness (i.e., before turning on any lights in the house). It was always a magical time going from darkness into the light. ”

“ “ **JILL MAIDENBERG**

“ On the last night of Hanukkah, turning off all the lights in the house and watching the last few minutes of the candles burning down/out. We were almost all holding our breath. ”

“ “ **GLENN KARLOV**

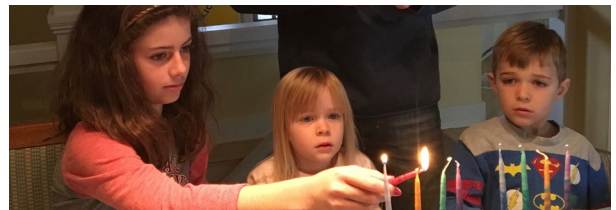
“ Extended family would get together and every family would bring their own menorah. Besides playing dreidel, we divided into teams and played Family Feud. We also had a fun, complicated gift game, where, taking turns, people could either choose to pick an unclaimed gift or take one from another family member who already chose a gift. ”

“ “ **BARB SPITZ**



“ It is our tradition to play guitar and sing, Light One Candle & Judah Maccabee. It was really sweet to share this tradition with Lauren's boyfriend Ben, who also loves to sing and play guitar! The harmonies were really beautiful! ”

“ “ **KATHY MAZUR**



“ Our children and grandchildren all love to make cut-out Chanukah cookies with Chanukah symbol cookie cutters. I usually double the cookie recipe because frosting & decorating them is such great entertainment. It seems to bring out the creative, competitive, and managerial skills in our participants! The second step of frosting and decorating them, which is a regular Chanukah highlight, evokes great enthusiasm and has become somewhat competitive—can any cookie have too many red hots? ”

“ “ **SUE CENTER**



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I have a happy/sad memory of the Hanukkah after my father died, leaving my mother a widow at 35 years old, with three young children. I was 8 years old. Friends came over with a dog in a box, unbeknownst to my mother—a gift for our family. We named the dog “chan” for Chanukah.

D.K.

Each night we would read one of the eight stories from I.B. Singer’s “The Power of the Light.” 25+ years later, my kids remember one of the darkest stories, as well as one of the most charming. We also would all contribute money and choose a charity or cause to donate to—a different one each year.

L.W.

When our children were in elementary and middle school, we always invited our non-Jewish neighbor families to light the candles with us and to enjoy latkes. My kids would tell the story of Hanukkah before we lit the candles to remind them and to teach our neighbors about the miracle of Hanukkah—and that it was not the Jewish Christmas.

SHELLEY SCHWARZ



Everyone has their own menorah to light.

LAUREL HEFTY

Getting all the menorahs out and lighting them all.

KEN FELZ

We arrived in Albany, NY, after spending time in a DP camp after the war. As it was December and the week of Hanukkah when we arrived, my parents had a Hanukkah party to celebrate our arrival as well as the holiday...and we continued to host a Hanukkah party each year after that. When I moved into my house in Madison, I started hosting a Hanukkah party every year, just as my parents did.

DEENA WILLIAMS

I grew up in Detroit. My grandpa was a radio disc jockey doing the Jewish Hour every Sunday morning and the Yiddish Hour every Saturday night. Our family had latke parties every Hanukkah with lots of dancing, music and silliness. My children continue this tradition with their families.

EVE SIEGEL

Making (and eating!) latkes and playing dreidel. My parents always gave us chocolate Maccabees; I continue that tradition with my own children.

KARI RILEY

My aunt, my father’s youngest sister, sent us a shoe box full of eight gifts every year for Hanukkah. The gifts were small—a toothbrush, a pencil, but it didn’t matter. I remember waiting anxiously for that shoe box to arrive.

MERILYN KUPFERBERG



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EIGHT WAYS TO CELEBRATE

1

PLAY WITH LIGHT

Make shadow puppets, dress up in glow-in-the-dark items, use glow paint, do a flash-light scavenger hunt, use a light box or lite-bright, create a potato light bulb, or have a glow party. Let the internet illuminate you with ideas for playing with light and have fun!

2

GAME NIGHT OR DREIDEL COMPETITION

Play dreidel, charades, or your favorite game with the family. Have a dreidel tournament and compete over who can spin the dreidel the longest, spin it upside down, get the most gimels in a row, spin it the fastest. How many dreidels can you spin at once? Who can predict the length of a particular dreidel's spin? Who can aim their dreidel to spin in a particular direction?

3

MUSIC NIGHT

Music can light your soul, and there are so many options for bringing music to your Hanukkah celebrations. Go Hanukkah caroling, listen to Hanukkah music, get out your instruments (or pots and pans) and try to play your favorite (Hanukkah) songs, write a new Hanukkah song, Hanukkah Karaoke (with songs about Hanukkah, light, freedom and family), play name-that-tune or freeze dance, make a music video, or dance to a few tunes. Check out the songs section of the TBE Hanukkah@Home resources. Or Check out ReformJudaism.org's Hanukkah Songs playlist (<https://open.spotify.com/user/reformjudaism/playlist/2ggHnnPTCUqu3Tm7KPtC0i>) or Hanukkah Family Favorites playlist (<https://open.spotify.com/user/reformjudaism/playlist/1em9Kv6jRJYPdMUC7uYgtA>) designed for families with young children.

4

EAT OR COOK TOGETHER

Try a recipe in this guide, sugar cookies, sufganiyot, or whatever else you're into—just do it with the family in person or on a video call. In addition to foods cooked in oil, did you know there's a tradition of eating cheese or salty foods? Enjoy a cheese plate, salt bagels, cheesecake, or potato latkes.

5

MOVIE OR THEATER NIGHT

Put on a play or retell the Hanukkah story. Or decide on a movie to watch as a family, pop popcorn or your grab your favorite munchies, and enjoy!



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6

SHOW YOUR JEWISH PRIDE

Today we have the freedom to practice a religious of our choosing, unlike the Jews under the rule of King Antiochus. We can display our identity as we see fit. This Hanukkah, celebrate your Judaism, hang a mezuzah, knit a kippah, decorate a challah cover, buy or make Star of David jewelry, or make a hanukkiyah. Dress up in Hanukkah apparel (matching Hanukkah PJs anyone?), or wear a kippah on a walk. Show your Jewish pride!

7

TZEDAKAH NIGHT

The gift of giving: Help teach the children in your life about the power of giving (or enjoy the mitzvah yourself) by encouraging them to choose one or more charities to make a donation to, or give one of the gifts they receive. It's a great time to discuss the mitzvah of tzedakah.

8

DEEP CLEAN YOUR HOME

As the Hanukkah story teaches, the Jewish people worked to clean up the destroyed Temple, including looking for any oil for the menorah that survived the tumultuous times. Many of us have a closet or playroom, etc., that could use a thorough cleaning and organizing. Who knows what treasures you might discover: forgotten toys, clothing you can donate, items to re-purpose, a family heirloom, and more.

For more ideas, see [8 Ideas for Celebrating Hanukkah with Teens](https://reformjudaism.org/jewish-holidays/hanukkah/8-ideas-celebrating-hanukkah-teens)
reformjudaism.org/jewish-holidays/hanukkah/8-ideas-celebrating-hanukkah-teens



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OH DREIDEL!

The dreidel is a four-sided top with one Hebrew letter on each side. The Hebrew word for dreidel is "sevivon," which means "to turn around." The four letters on the dreidel, nun נ, gimel ג, hey ה, and shin ש, are an acronym for "Nes gadol haya sham," which means "a great miracle happened there." In Israel, instead of the fourth letter being a shin, for "sham" ("there"), it is a peh פ, which stands for "po," meaning "here"—a great miracle happened here.

WHY IS GAMBLING A CUSTOM ON HANUKKAH?

The dreidel game, which we now play with all kinds of items, candy, nuts, etc., was originally played with coins. In 167 BCE, when the Syrian-Greeks ruled over Judea (Israel), among the many things they did to stamp out Judaism is ban Torah study. Despite this, the Jewish people continued to study and teach their children, just more discreetly. Under the threat of death, teachers and their students met in secret, having one person be a lookout to watch for soldiers. If the enemy was spotted, the books were quickly hidden and the Jews would pretend to be gambling. Gambling was a perfectly acceptable thing to do, in the eyes of the Syrian-Greeks. Thus, playing dreidel actually helped save Torah study in Israel!

OTHER DREIDEL EXPLANATIONS

- In the numerological tradition of the Gematriah, every Hebrew letter has a numerical equivalent, the letters on the dreidel—nun, gimel, hey, and shin—add up to 358. 358 is also the numerical equivalent of moshiach (Messiah).
- The four letters are said to also represent the four kingdoms that tried to destroy the Jews in ancient times.
 - N = Nebuchadnezzar = Babylon
 - H = Haman = Persia = Madai
 - G = Gog = Greece
 - S = Seir = Rome

SPIN THE DREIDEL (RULES)

WHAT YOU NEED:

- At least one dreidel (all players can share, or each have their own).
- Playing pieces for each participant. Pennies, stones, chocolate coins, small candies, buttons, shelled nuts, etc. could be used. Note these will be handled before they could be eaten. The more pieces each person has, the longer the game.
- A large flat surface to spin a dreidel unimpeded.

HOW TO PLAY:

- Distribute an equal number of playing pieces to each person.
- Begin by having each person put one piece into a common pot.
- Pick a player to go first and go around the table taking turns. For each turn, the player spins the dreidel. They take action based on the letter that the dreidel lands on:
 - נ Nun: The player does nothing
 - ג Gimel: The player takes all (the pieces in the pot)
 - ה Hey: the player takes half the pot (if an odd number, they take the greater amount)
 - ש Shin: The player puts one into the pot.
- If the common pot becomes empty, each player puts one in and the game continues.
- The winner is the person who collects all the playing pieces.

A CHARITABLE TWIST:

Have each player put some money into the pot, and the winner gets to choose where to donate it.



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LETTER	LETTER NAME	HEBREW WORD	TRANSLATION	GAME ACTION
נ	Nun	Nes	miracle	Do N othing
ג	Gimel	Gadol	great	G et all
ה	Hey	Haya	happened	Take H alf
ש	Shin	Sham	there	S hare (add piece)

Don't have anyone to play dreidel with? Play against the computer (or up to 4 people) at abcya.com/games/hanukkah_dreidel or check out virtualdreidel.com/. 



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8 NIGHTS OF HANUKKAH GRATITUDE

"I am grateful for the helpers, the people, and organizations bringing light to help my community, my country, and my world." - Shamash

During Hanukkah the word "miracle" will sound in Jewish homes throughout the world for the eight days of the holiday. However, miracles do not only belong to our ancient past. Every day, miracles occur when we are the shamash and help one another and care for the world around us. Miracles occur and our own happiness increases when we better the world by improving the lives of others in accordance with the Jewish values of tikkun olam and tzedakah.

WHAT ARE EIGHT MIRACLES YOU'RE GRATEFUL FOR THIS HANUKKAH? WRITE THEM DOWN AND REFLECT.

Adapted from theblue dove foundation.org/ found at customandcraft.org/clip/8-night-of-hanukkah-gratitude



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GO STARGAZING



Looking at the stars can be a special blessing this time of year. The dark of night comes early during Hanukkah. For most of the holiday the moon is just a sliver, and on the sixth night, you can't see it at all. That means this is a perfect time to check out the night sky.

Bundle up, bring some hot chocolate or warm cider, and go stargazing. Consider going to an open space away from city lights, bringing binoculars or a telescope. If there's no snow on the ground, put out a blanket (or air mattress) and get comfortable.

- Are some stars (or possibly planets) brighter than others?
- Which constellations can you identify?
- Bring a sketchpad and pencil so you can sketch what you see and look them up later.
- Learn more about the link between stargazing and Hanukkah in this article <https://blogs.timesofisrael.com/starlight-and-menorah-light/>

From <https://pjlibrary.org/beyond-books/pjblog/november-2019/go-stargazing-with-your-family>



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HANUKKAH JOKE TELLER

Print and cut out this fun "fortune teller" with some Hanukkah jokes:

brendid.com/ or drive.google.com/file/d/1u1vYLLg0dxLwfukKGlvJRXHiiWzQV40K/view

Or create your own. Here are a few jokes to get you started:

Q: What did the stamp say to the Hanukkah card?

A: Stick with me and we'll go places.

Q: Person 1: Where are all the doughnuts?

A: Person 2: It's a miracle—I thought I only had space for one, but in the end I ate eight...

Q: What did the dreidel say to the doctor?

A: You see, Doc, I keep getting these dizzy spells.

Q: What's a potato nightmare?

A: Becoming a latke.

Q: What do you get when you mix a sneeze with the Festival of Lights?

A: AHH-choonukkah!



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BEYOND THE DREIDEL GAME

Looking to spend time as a family or start a new tradition? Try these Hanukkah games and activities.

KARAOKE

The My Menorah App from Jewish Interactive has a karaoke setting. Download it free from your app store. Use it to play a family game of Hanukkah karaoke. Dough-nut forget to record a few to be able to relive these fun moments!

MIRACLE WORKER

Write a "wish" that someone else can fulfill, and throw it into a hat. Everyone draws a wish and reads it aloud. The reader should try to fulfill that wish.

BODY SPELLING

Use your bodies to form the letters of Hanukkah (in Hebrew, English, or other language). Photograph each letter and paste together to create a collage in which the whole word can be seen.

Here's how to spell Hanukkah in Hebrew: חנוכה

Bonus: try forming other Hanukkah words or symbols like dreidel, Hanukiah, or Maccabee.

A TWIST ON THE DREIDEL GAME

Gather eight sheets of construction or copy paper and cut a large dreidel shape from each of the sheets of paper. Write one of the following discussion starters (or your own) on each dreidel so that each dreidel has a different discussion starter on it:

- Togetherness is part of our family when...
- Sharing is part of our family when...
- Loving is part of our family when...
- Fun is part of our family when...
- Celebration is part of our family when...
- Mitzvot are part of our family when...
- Learning is part of our family when...
- Tradition is part of our family when...

After the discussion starter, draw eight blank lines.

As a family, come with eight answers for one of the discussion starters on the first night of Hanukkah and write them down. A different family member can be the recorder each night. Use a different discussion starter dreidel for each night of the holiday. You can hang up each night's dreidel as part of your Hanukkah decorations. Take a picture or save them to compare with next year's answers.



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GRAB BAG TASKS

Create a grab bag in which each family member draws a piece of paper with a task on it that they must do. Print the task pieces, then cut out the tasks and place them in a bag or other container. Shake the bag and select a person to go first. They should pull a piece out of the bag without looking. Once the piece is selected, the person can read the task out loud and do what it says. Then pass the bag to the next player. It's up to you if you want to put tasks back in so others might do them too, or keep them out until all tasks have been done.

The story says that the Greek soldiers rode on giant elephants. Make your best elephant sound!	Spin around like a dreidel.	Say one thing you love about the person next to you.	We celebrate the miracle that the oil lasted in the menorah for eight days. What is your favorite food made with oil?
If you could eat one thing for dinner every night of Hanukkah, what would it be?	What is your favorite Hanukkah tradition?	There are eight nights of Hanukkah. How many words can you think of that rhyme with the word "eight"?	The story says that the Greek soldiers rode on giant elephants. Walk like an elephant.
The shamash is the helper candle. How were you a helper today?	How many ways can you spell Hanukkah in English?	The Maccabees celebrated and gave thanks to God for the oil lasting eight days. What are three things you'd like to thank someone for?	What are some miracles in your life?



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PUBLICIZE THE MIRACLE

This year, take a picture of your menorah from outside the window and share it on the Temple Beth El Facebook page. Share it on your own social media as well. Let's fill our "virtual" world with light!

We can tackle darkness and evil with the light of just one little candle. We add one more each night as if we are adding to our efforts to bring more good deeds into this world."



RABBI LEVI DUBOV

One of the mitzvahs of Hanukkah is "pirsum hanes," publicizing the miracle that took place in the days of the Maccabees. A number of our customs come from this requirement, such as lighting at sundown, when the flames are most likely to be seen by passers-by, and placing our menorah in the window to be visible from the outside. Many families light more than one hanukkiyah, to share even more light in recognition of the miracle of the oil that should have only burned for one day but lasted eight days until more oil could be made.



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HANUKKAH WORD SEARCH

C	A	S	H	A	M	A	S	H	O	P	M	Q
O	H	J	M	E	N	O	R	A	H	D	A	H
C	F	A	C	O	L	L	M	I	J	R	C	T
O	G	N	N	H	E	A	R	S	U	E	C	U
J	E	B	E	U	O	V	T	K	D	I	A	S
U	L	E	S	B	K	C	D	K	B	D	B	C
D	T	E	Q	J	U	K	O	X	E	E	E	A
A	W	S	Y	I	M	T	A	L	G	L	E	N
H	A	N	U	K	K	I	A	H	A	Z	S	D
A	B	I	C	E	G	K	D	J	G	T	M	L
Y	O	M	I	R	A	C	L	E	R	N	E	E
A	C	Q	G	P	D	H	I	L	S	O	F	S
T	S	H	A	M	O	V	T	I	Y	I	E	W
F	U	X	D	O	L	I	G	H	T	L	Z	A

Hanukkah
Maccabees
menorah
hanukiah
Judah

gelt
dreidel
chocolate
miracle
nes

gadol
haya
sham
light
shamash

latke
oil
candles



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BE THE LIGHT



It is written in Proverbs 20:27 that “the human spirit is God’s candle.” Our tradition teaches that each of us has the capacity to bring light and goodness, holiness and compassion, into the world. Through our thoughts, actions and relationships, through our efforts to restore balance, justice and dignity in the world, we have the power to illuminate and inspire, even in the darkest of times.

The shamash is the special candle on the menorah that lights the other candles and is traditionally elevated. This year when you light the shamash, imagine for a moment that you have the power to become “God’s candle.” What would it mean to light up the world around you with hope and possibilities? What could you do to light up your world?

DIRECTIONS

For this project, print enough candles for each night of Hanukkah. Cut them out and decorate them any way you would like. Cut out a strip of paper the size of your head and decorate it too. You might use colored paper, or crayons or stickers. Glue or tape the strip together to the right size. On the back of each candle, write something you can do to bring light into the world.

Your efforts don’t have to be time consuming or expensive, but consider these eight small efforts that can make a world of difference and a difference in our world:

- Show respect for others’ ideas, even when you disagree with them.
- Laugh at yourself, but not at others.
- Avoid harmful speech and gossip.
- Tell someone you love them.
- Donate food, clothing, time, or money to organizations in need.
- Call a friend who is lonely or sick.
- Say you’re sorry when you make a mistake.
- Stay present to the blessings in your life and be grateful.

Each night of Hanukkah, add one more candle to your hat.

When you light your candles this year, remember that Hanukkah is the only holiday when we wish each other “Chag Urim Sameach”—a joyous holiday of light!

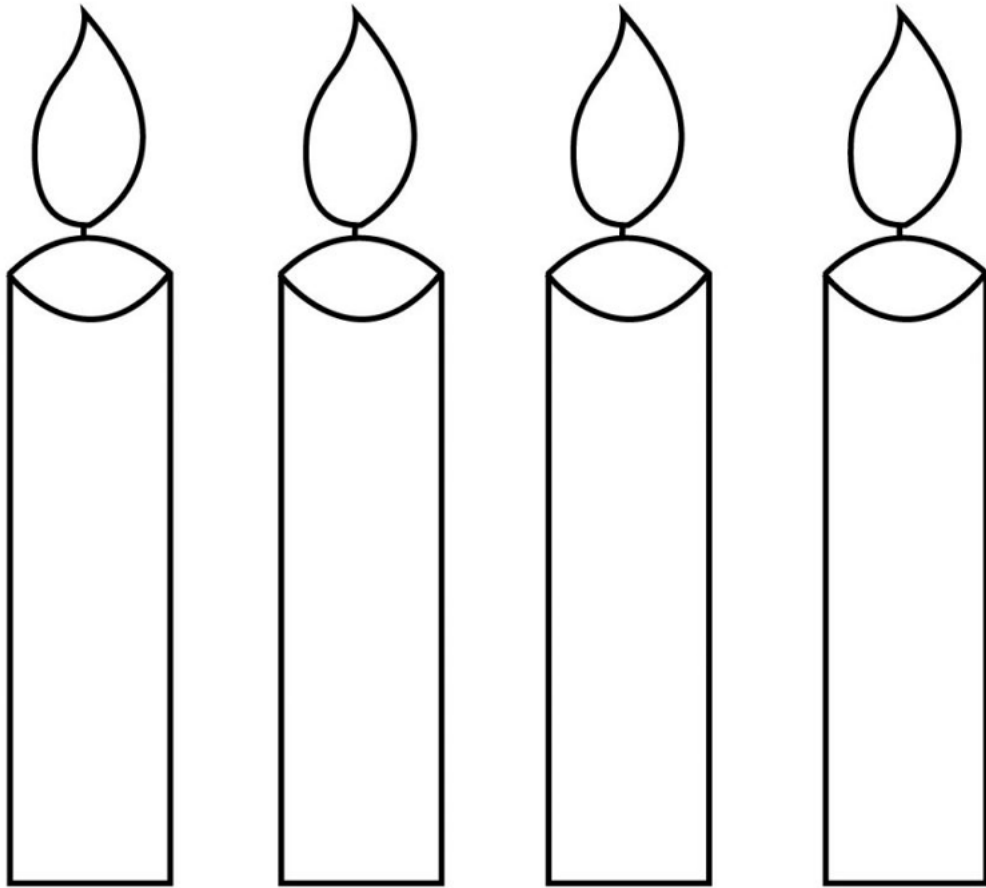
Adapted from Oregon Jewish Life www.orejewishlife.com



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You can use these candles as a template for the activity on the previous page



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HANUKKAH TISSUE PAPER SUN CATCHERS



See instructions at craftprojectideas.com/hanukkah-tissue-paper-sun-catchers



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MAKE A CLAY OR PLAYDOUGH HANUKKIYAH

WHAT YOU NEED:

Clay
Hanukkah or birthday candles

STEP 1

Form some clay into a bar about 10 inches long, 2 inches wide, and 2 inches thick.

STEP 2

Add more clay to one end or the middle to make it three inches thick. This is for the shamash, the candle used to light the other candles.

STEP 3

Use the bottom of a Hanukkah candle to make 8 indentations along the bar and a ninth hole in the thicker part for the shamash. Be sure these don't go all the way through the clay, but are deep enough that the candle stays up on its own.

STEP 4

Optional: decorate it with other clay, a toothpick, etc. Or wait for it to dry and glue on other items; just keep it all fire-safe.

STEP 5

Let it dry and enjoy.



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MAKE A NATURE-INSPIRED MENORAH



BASIC SUPPLIES:

A piece of cardboard or cereal box
Yellow/gold construction paper or cardstock
Scissors or a utility knife
A hole punch
8 or 9 sticks (about 3-4" long)
Paint and a brush
A hot glue gun or craft glue

OPTIONAL SUPPLIES:

Moss, evergreen sprigs or other natural decorations
Garden shears to cut twigs

STEP 1

Collect 9 twigs of the same approximate length and width (you can usually break one larger stick into 2 or 3 smaller ones). You'll also want 4 longer straight sticks to use along the edges of your menorah (a decorative touch that also helps it keeps its shape and stand strong and sturdy). I thought it would be especially engaging for kids if it formed a rainbow of colors, so we painted each stick, but they'd look equally beautiful left untouched.

STEP 2

Add paper flames to the top of each candle with glue. Cut small, simple flame shapes out of a piece of cardstock or construction paper. Use a hot glue gun to affix a flame to the top of each twig candle.

Note: It's easier to push the stick into the cardboard base if the edge is fairly even, so if one side of your stick has a much more jagged edge, you may want to use that side for your paper flame.

STEP 3

Cut a strip of cardboard, paint, and crease at center to create the base. Use an X-acto knife or similar to cut an 18-inch x 2.5 inch (or larger) strip of cardboard from the side of a box.



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STEP 4

Cut holes in the cardboard strip for your twig candles. Make a mark in the middle of your cardboard strip, then use a ruler to mark off 4 more lines (equal distances apart) down each side of your cardboard strip.

STEP 5

Using an X-acto knife or boxcutter, cut small X's at each mark, then gently fold inwards (toward the bottom of your base). These create the holders for our twig candles. Remember to take into account the width of your twigs so your X's don't create a hole that's too small/large. If you do happen to make a hole that's a bit too large, just wrap a bit of clay or play-dough around your candle before adding it to the menorah!

STEP 6

Glue a small cardboard support to the underside of your base. To stabilize your menorah and keep it standing tall, glue a small cardboard triangle-shaped support under the bend in the center.

STEP 7

Add nature-based decorative elements to the base. We thought we'd cover up a bit of the cardboard and embrace the natural theme by adding some dried mosses on top. We used the glue gun to make a big "S" shape, then started pressing dried grasses and mosses down on top!

STEP 8

Glue sticks to the 4 edges of your menorah. To add some support and give our edges a finishing touch, we used a hot glue gun to add stick edging to each side of our menorah. We were able to just break our sticks to the approximate length of each side, but you can use a pair of garden shears if your sticks are harder to break at the right spot.

STEP 9

Add your candles! Gently pop the candles into your menorah each night from right to left, using the shamash to "light" each one

From barleyandbirch.com/2019/11/make-a-colorful-diy-twig-menorah-for-kids/



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SEND HANUKKAH CARDS

Hanukkah is a time to spread the light and check in with family and friends during the dark winter months. Whether you buy cards and write messages on them or make your cards (a great activity to do with kids), it's a wonderful way to warm someone's heart. Who doesn't smile when they get a personal card?

If making your own, you'll need paper or cardstock, crayons, markers or colored pencils, anything you want to decorate with, stickers, stamps, shapes to cut out and glue on, stencils, googly eyes, tissue paper, etc. Have fun! If you plan to mail your card, be mindful of what size envelope you will need when picking a size for your card.

Here's some suggested greetings:

- Happy Hanukkah!
- Happy Festival of Lights.
- Wishing you eight days of laughter and love as you celebrate Hanukkah this year.
- Family means even more during holidays like Hanukkah.
- May the lights of Hanukkah usher in a better world.
 - Wishing you blessings and joy this season.
 - May all the happiness and success be yours not only this Hanukkah but for the entire year ahead!
- You bring joy and light to the world.
- From the first day till the last, I'll be thinking of you.
- I'm so grateful you're in my world.
- Wish we could share this Hanukkah together.
- Your love shines through all you do.
- Having a friend like you means so much.
- Wishing you eight days of laughter and love as you celebrate Hanukkah this year.
- Just reminding you you're special to me at Hanukkah and always.
- Your thoughtful, warm-hearted spirit makes you unique.
- The kindness you show all year is appreciated.
- Enclosing "latkes" love with this!
- Freedom, Peace, Love, Faith, Tradition, Hope
 - Warmth of joy, glow of prosperity, sparkle of happiness...may you be blessed with all these and more.
 - May this Festival of Lights bring blessings upon you and all your loved ones for happiness and health.
 - May this Hanukkah bring your good health, peace, happiness, and prosperity and add sweetness to your life today and always.
 - Happy Hanukkah from our home to yours.
 - This year, my Hanukkah candles won't shine as bright...for you are not here to add glow to them. Thinking of you and wishing you a very happy Hanukkah!



for very young children



for elementary-age children



for older children or adults



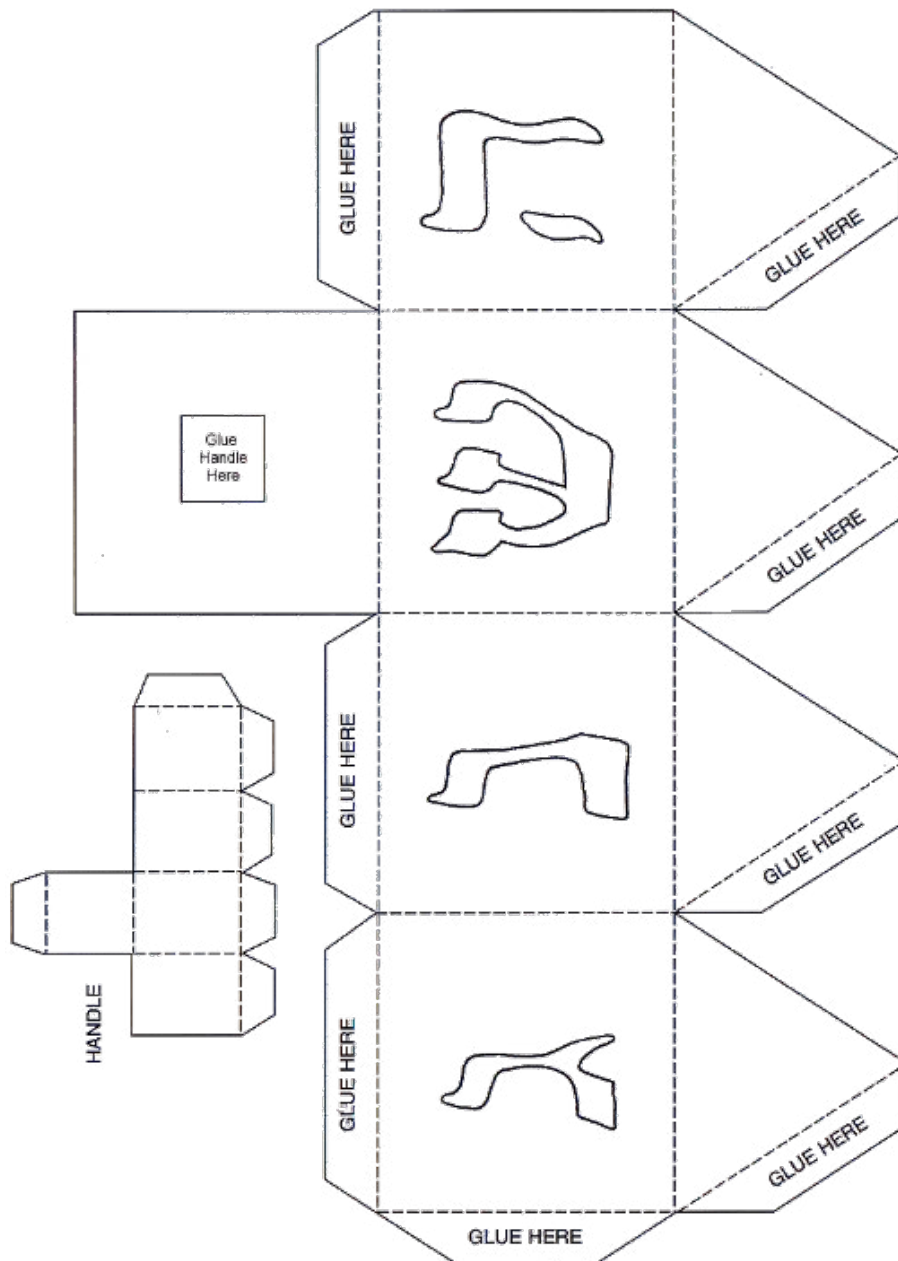
Hanukkah @ Home

ACTIVITIES

PAPER DREIDEL 🕯️

Color this first, then cut it out and glue together. A toothpick, short straw, or lollipop stick all make good handles if you stick it through the "glue handle here" spot. Or roll up some paper tight to make a handle.

Image from akhlah.com/holidays/hanukkah/hanukkah_crafts/dreidel_decoration.htm



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Hanukkah @ Home

ACTIVITIES

HANUKKAH ORIGAMI

Decorate with or enjoy some Hanukkah origami:

Hanukkiah: youtube.com/watch?v=Krdl6xDrSxU

Star of David: origamiheaven.com/pdfs/starofdavid.pdf

Dreidel for decoration (doesn't spin): origami-resource-center.com/hanukkah-dreidel.html

Origami Dreidel

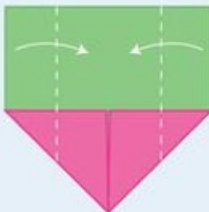
Start with paper square that is 6 inches by 6 inches. Try leftover wrapping paper, scrapbook paper or pages of magazines—anything colorful will do.



Fold the paper in half, then unfold.



Fold the two corners to the crease you just made.



Fold both sides to the middle.



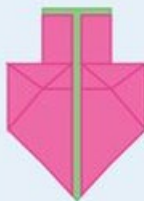
Fold the short edge to the pointed end.



Fold up again, leaving a pleat. Fold the corner in, as shown.



Unfold them again. Fold the outside edges to the middle.



As you do this small triangles form. See next drawing. Sharpen all creases.



Turn the paper over to the other side. Awesome! **You've made an origami dreidel.**

Image originally from JewishCamp.org

Dreidel that does spin (this is more advanced): biblebeltbalabusta.com/2014/12/20/spinning-origami-dreidel/



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Hanukkah @ Home

ACTIVITIES

HANUKKAH QUIZ

A question for each night, plus a bonus question. Answers on last page.

NIGHT
1

Which is the correct spelling of this holiday?

- A. Hanukah
- B. Channukah
- C. Channuka
- D. Hanukkah

NIGHT
2

What is the primary mitzvah of this holiday?

- A. Eating latkes (potato pancakes)
- B. Giving gifts
- C. Publicizing the miracle
- D. Playing dreidel

NIGHT
3

The word "Hanukkah" has two commonly accepted meanings. Which of the following are correct?

- A. The Festival of Lights
- B. The Fried Foods Festival
- C. The Festival of Dedication
- D. The Festival of the Dreidel

NIGHT
4

What do the four Hebrew letters on the dreidel (nun, gimel, hey, shin) stand for?

- A. Eternal values will always triumph.
- B. A great miracle happened there.
- C. God saved us from our enemies.
- D. Try your luck and win the pot.

NIGHT
5

Companies began advertising that their products made great Hanukkah gifts in the 1920s. What brand's ad claimed their flour made "the best flour for latkes"?

- A. Gold Medal
- B. Pillsbury
- C. Aunt Jemima
- D. King Arthur

NIGHT
6

What are the gifts called that children traditionally receive?

- A. hanukkiyah
- B. latke
- C. gelt
- D. dreidel

NIGHT
7

The Hanukkah story is related in which book of the Tanak (bible)?

- A. Esther
- B. Kings II
- C. Ruth
- D. There is no biblical book concerning Hanukkah.

NIGHT
8

How many candles will we light during the 8 days and nights of Hanukkah this year?

- A. 47
- B. 36
- C. 44
- D. 42

BONUS
9

Who lights the menorah?

- A. The oldest person present
- B. The rabbi
- C. The youngest person present
- D. Everyone can light their own menorah



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for older children or adults



Hanukkah @ Home

ACTIVITIES

ADDITIONAL HANUKKAH RESOURCES ONLINE

HANUKKAH BLESSINGS, WITH WORDS IN HEBREW AND TRANSLITERATION, AUDIO AND VIDEO CLIPS:

reformjudaism.org/beliefs-practices/prayers-blessings/hanukkah-blessings

LEARN TO LIGHT THE CHANUKAH CANDLES WITH KIDS (OF ALL AGES) BY SHABOOM:

youtu.be/pDmvvAhTn2c

QUEERING THE JEWISH HOLIDAYS: HOW I CELEBRATE HANUKKAH:

keshetonline.org/news/queering-the-jewish-holidays-how-i-celebrate-hanukkah/

18DOORS—GUIDE TO HANUKKAH FOR INTERFAITH FAMILIES:

18doors.org/wp-content/uploads/GuideToHanukkahforInterfaithFamilies_2020.pdf

JEWBELONG HANUKKAH GUIDE:

flipsnack.com/jewbelong/hanukkahjewbelong/full-view.html

REIMAGINING HANUKKAH: A RESOURCE GUIDE:

images.shulcloud.com/1926/uploads/PDF-Libraries/Hanukkah_ResourceGuide.pdf

CAMP HANUKKAH:

jewishcamp.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/06/Camp-Hanukkah-Activity-Book.pdf

RITUALWELL HAS LOTS OF GREAT HANUKKAH RESOURCES:

ritualwell.org/

8 DAYS OF HAPPINESS FROM JEWISH INTERACTIVE:

jewishinteractive.org/chanukah-parents-guide-my-menorah/

HANUKKAH: A VISUAL GUIDE FOR NEWCOMERS (AND A HANDY REMINDER FOR LONGTIME CELEBRATORS):

ujcvp.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/12/BigTentJudaism-Hanukkah-Visual-Guide.pdf

JEWISH CENTER FOR JUSTICE HANUKKAH GUIDE:

jewishcenterforjustice.org/wp-content/uploads/2019_JCJ_Hanukkah_Guide.pdf

LIGHT ONE CANDLE FOR FREEDOM, DIGNITY AND JUSTICE FROM AMERICAN JEWISH WORLD SERVICE:

ajws-americanjewishworldservice.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/12/Chanukah_Reading_2019.pdf

A GUIDE TO HANUKKAH:

jcca.org/app/uploads/2018/02/Hanukkah_Guide_Feb2018_web.pdf

PJ LIBRARY'S 2020 QUICK GUIDE TO CELEBRATING HANUKKAH WITH KIDS:

pjlibrary.org/beyond-books/pjblog/november-2020/hanukkah-2020-with-kids

(search their site for even more Hanukkah goodies)

JEWISH TREATS COMPLETE GUIDE TO HANUKKAH:

njop.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/JewishTreats-Complete_Guide_to_Chanukah2016.pdf and <https://njop.org/chanukah/>

VISIT YOUTUBE TO FIND VIDEOS OF LOTS OF HANUKKAH SONGS AND OTHER GOODIES.



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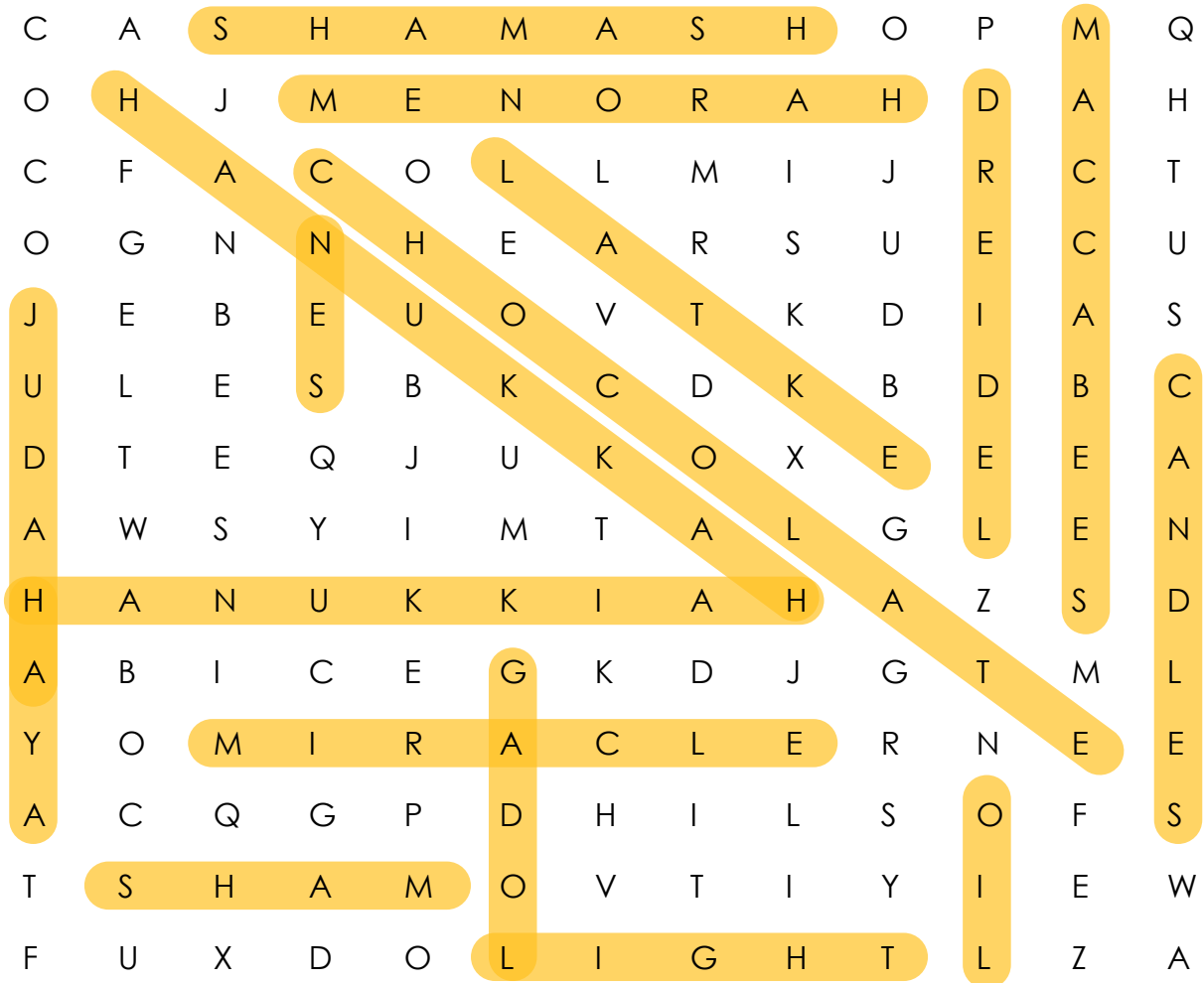
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Hanukkah @ Home

ACTIVITIES

HANUKKAH WORD SEARCH ANSWER KEY



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Hanukkah @ Home

ACTIVITIES

HANUKKAH QUIZ ANSWERS

NIGHT
1

ALL OF THEM!

They all are! The word "Hanukkah" comes from the Hebrew language; Hebrew and English are written in different alphabets. As a result, Hebrew words must be transliterated (converted from one alphabet into another) if they are to be readable in English. There are at least 16 different "correct" spellings!

NIGHT
2

ANSWER: C

The primary mitzvah of Hanukkah is publicizing the miracle, which is accomplished through the lighting of the menorah. The act of lighting the Hanukkah candles entails more than just that; we place the candles in the window, where others can see them when they are lit, to show the Jewish people's acknowledgment of our gratitude to God and to serve as a reminder of what was lost and what we had reclaimed.

NIGHT
3

ANSWERS: A AND C

Hanukkah means "dedication" in Hebrew, but it is often referred to as both the Festival of Lights and the Festival of Dedication.

NIGHT
4

ANSWER: B

A great miracle happened there. The letters (nun, gimel, hey, shin) spell out the Hebrew words of "Nes gadol haya sham," or "A great miracle happened there." What is the significance of the dreidel? During the time of the Maccabees, Jews were imprisoned for the "crime" of studying Torah. While in jail, these Jews would gather together to play dreidel. Under the guise of idling away their time, they'd engage in Torah discussions and thus defy the enemies of Judaism. Until today, the "game of dreidel" reminds us of our eternal defiance of anyone who tries to stand between a Jew and the Torah.

NIGHT
5

ANSWER: C

Aunt Jemima, first introduced in 1889. The brand is currently owned by the Quaker Oats Company, which announced in 2020 that the Aunt Jemima brand would be retired "to make progress toward racial equality."

NIGHT
6

ANSWER: C

Gelt (in remembrance of the coins made by the new Maccabee state). Answer A is the word for a Hanukkah menorah.

NIGHT
7

ANSWER: D

There is no biblical book concerning Hanukkah. The Book of Maccabees, which relates the story of Hanukkah, is part of the Apocrypha, which are nonbiblical texts. The books of the Apocrypha are often related to the biblical texts and are written in a similar style, but were either written after the sages closed the biblical canon (as is the case of the Book of Maccabees) or were not seen to have prophetic insights to guide the Jewish people in future times and were therefore not included in the Bible.

NIGHT
8

ANSWER: C (WITH PARTIAL CREDIT FOR A)

You get to 44 by adding 2 on the first night, 3 on the second night, etc., up to 9 on the eighth night. The partial credit answer includes two more candles lit on Friday evening for Shabbat, which falls on the second night this year, and the one Havdalah candle lit to end Shabbat on Saturday evening!

BONUS
9

ANSWER: D

All adults are equally obligated in the lighting of the Hanukkah lights, and everyone may light their own menorah (age appropriate of course).



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