

How to Play Rosh Hashanah Bingo

Before you play the first time, cut apart the two pages of Rosh Hashanah Bingo cards, following the dotted lines. (NOTE: Do not cut apart the four playing boards with the borders.) Then put the small cards into a stack.

Give each player a pile of tokens, like pennies or small, wrapped candies. Small candies are especially good because they reinforce the idea of “sweetness” for Rosh Hashanah.

Select someone to serve as the caller. That person will choose a symbol from the card pile and call out the name of that symbol. Different people can even take turns being the caller.

If a player has that symbol on his board, he puts a token on it.

The first person to get three across, three down, or three in a row diagonally is the winner and yells “BINGO!”

Symbols & Explanations for Rosh Hashanah Bingo



SHOFAR. Ram’s horn blown in synagogue during Rosh Hashanah and at the end of Yom Kippur in a specific order of short and long piercing blasts. The final blast from the shofar, called “tekiyah g’dolah,” lasts as long as the shofar blower has breath!



APPLE. Symbol of abundance, apples are round and sweet, symbolizing our hope for a good new year.



ROUND CHALLAH. Represents hope for a full, round year – and symbolizes the continuity of creation. Some people add raisins or honey for extra sweetness.



HONEY. We dip challah and apples into honey in our hope for a sweet year. In the Bible, Israel is often called the land of “milk and honey.”

Symbols & Explanations - continued



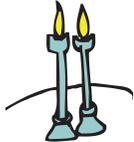
POMEGRANATES. Many families serve a first fruit of the season on the second night of Rosh Hashanah, often a pomegranate. Said to contain 613 seeds, just like the 613 good deeds (*mitzvot*) in the Bible, the pomegranate is a symbol of hope for a year full of good things.



FISH. Since Rosh Hashanah means “head of the year,” many serve the head of a fish during the festival meal. Like apples, fish are also symbols of abundance.



FLOWERS. Adding fresh flowers to your Rosh Hashanah dinner table makes the gathering festive and special.



CANDLES. We light candles and say the blessing over them.



WINE. We sing the blessing over wine, the Kiddush, on the first and second nights of Rosh Hashanah.



STREAM. Based on an ancient custom called *tashlich*, we throw crumbs into a moving body of water to represent casting away our sins. You can talk with little ones about how we will be kinder in the coming year.



BEE. Bees make the honey that makes our holiday extra sweet. In the Bible, though, honey refers to honey made from dates, rather than from bees.



HONEY CAKE. A cake made with honey and spices is a family tradition in many homes.



SYNAGOGUE. For many families, going to synagogue is a key part of celebrating.



KIDDUSH CUP. A special cup or goblet reserved for the blessing over wine on Friday nights and holidays.



NEW CLOTHES. In honor of the “new year” and fresh starts, some families buy new clothes for Rosh Hashanah.



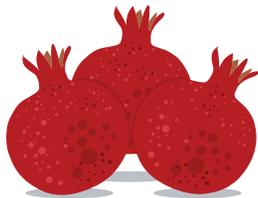
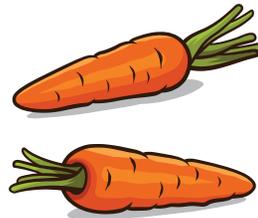
DOVE & OLIVE BRANCH. Symbols of peace and friendship. After the flood, Noah released the dove in search of dry land. When she returned, the dove carried an olive branch, letting Noah know that the flood had receded.

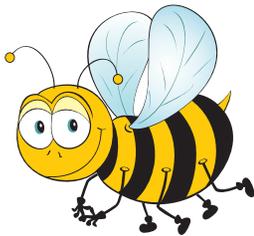
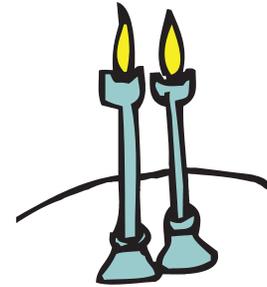


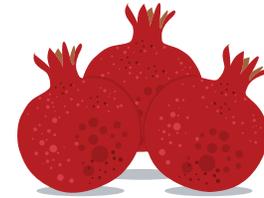
CARROTS. Carrot coins symbolize hope for prosperity in the new year. In our family, we often make simmered carrots sweetened with sugar or honey.

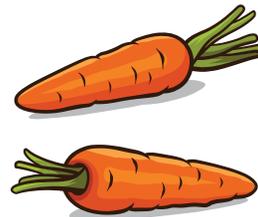
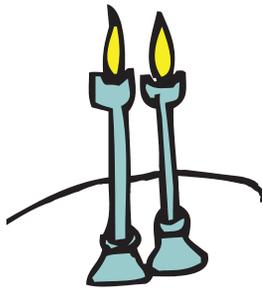
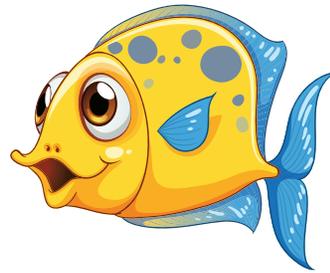


SUKKAH. A “booth” or “hut” built outdoors as part of the harvest festival of Sukkot. (Starts 2 weeks after Rosh Hashanah.) Some families eat meals and even sleep in their sukkah.











SHOFAR



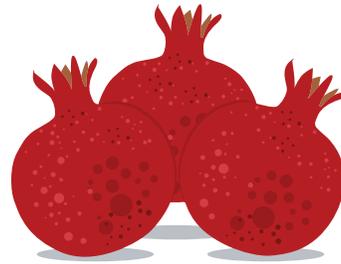
APPLE



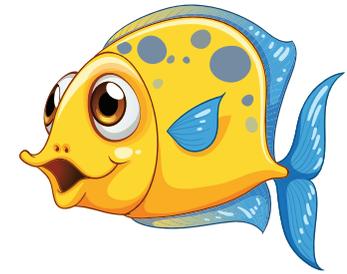
ROUND CHALLAH



HONEY



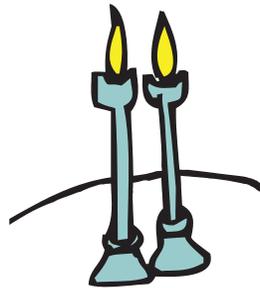
POMEGRANATES



FISH



FLOWERS



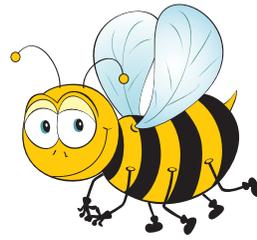
CANDLES



WINE



STREAM



BEE



HONEY CAKE



SYNAGOGUE



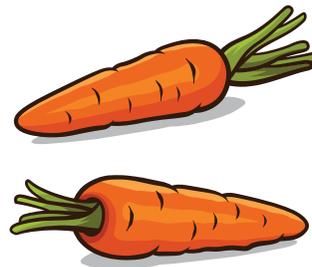
KIDDUSH CUP



NEW CLOTHES



DOVE & OLIVE BRANCH



CARROTS



SUKKAH