

Who is Jewish and how do they live?

What our children should already know

The children have a mixed knowledge of religion. None of the children are Jewish but lots are knowledgeable about their own religion. They have previously encountered learning on which stories are special in Reception.

Key Vocabulary

Shema	The most ancient Jewish prayer that can be found in the Torah.
Mezuzah	A parchment inscribed with religious texts and attached in a case to the doorpost of a Jewish house as a sign of faith.
Shabbat	A day of rest and also a celebration.
Kosher	Foods that conform to the Jewish dietary regulations.
Kippah	A skullcap worn by orthodox Jewish men.
Tallith	A white shawl with fringed corners worn over the head and shoulders by Jewish males during religious services.
Synagogue	A special place of worship for Jewish people.
Pilgrimage	A special religious journey.
Torah	The Jewish holy book.
Ark	A special cupboard to place the Torah. This is found in a Synagogue.
Yad	A pointer used to point in a Torah.
Hanukkah menorah	A special lamp with nine candles lit by Jews during Hanukkah.
Fast	To not eat or drink for a period of time.
Ten Commandments	Ten important life rules for Jews given to Moses by God.
Hebrew	The language used by Jewish people.
Barmitzvah	A ceremony to show a Jewish boy has become an adult. It happens when a boy is 13 years old.
Batmitzvah	A ceremony to show a Jewish girl has become an adult. It happens when a girl is 12 years old.

Questions we want our children to be able to answer

- What is the Jewish prayer called?
- Where is a Torah stored in a Synagogue?
- What does Hanukkah celebrate?
- How long does the celebration of Hanukkah last for?
- Why do Jews celebrate Pesach (Passover)?
- How long does Passover last for?

Lesson Sequence

- Lesson 1—To recognise artefacts found in a Jewish home.
- Lesson 2— To explore precious items found in homes.
- Lesson 3—To recognise the words of the Shema as a Jewish Prayer.
- Lesson 4—To understand how and why Jewish people celebrate.
- Lesson 5— To read and understand stories Jewish people tell from the Jewish Bible.
- Lesson 6—To understand the story of Chanukah.

Artefacts and Symbols



The Star of David is the symbol of the Jewish community.



Key Events/Celebrations/Stories

Yom Kippur is when Jews fast, reflect on the previous year and pray for God's forgiveness.

Hanukkah is the 'festival of lights' when Jews light a Hannukah menorah dedicated to God.

Passover is when Jews remember being led out of slavery by Moses.

Barmitzvah and batmitzvah are important celebrations for Jewish families.

Similarities to Other Religions

This religion also has a special book (Torah) and a special place of worship (Synagogue). There is only one god, just like in Christianity, Islam & Sikhism. Hindus and Jews celebrate a 'Festival of Light'.

Final Outcome

For children to create a Star of David as a symbol for what they have learnt during their Judaism topic using lollipop sticks. Children will write key vocabulary on each of the lines to show their understanding.

SMSC Links

Appreciating other cultures as well as discussing similarities alongside differences. Learning from other cultures.

Children will discuss that Jews believe in one God but other faiths may believe in more than one God/ a different God/ many or no Gods.

Key Milestones

- Identify core beliefs and concepts studied and give a simple description of what they mean
- give examples of how stories show what people believe
- give clear, simple accounts of what stories and other texts mean to believers
- give examples of how people use stories, texts and teachings to guide their beliefs and actions
- give examples of ways in which believers put their beliefs into practice
- think, talk and ask questions about whether the ideas they have been studying, have something to say to them
- give a good reason for the views they have and the connections they make

Choices

- Understanding that a religion/religious beliefs are a choice and not everyone believes the same thing.