

Passover



What do you already know about Passover?

What Is Passover?

Passover is one of the most important festivals in the **Jewish** year.

Passover is called Pesach in Hebrew.

Click on the words in bold to find out more.

Jewish - a person whose religion is Judaism

Hebrew – an ancient language that is the official language of Israel

When Is Passover?

Passover is celebrated in spring by Jewish people.



Why Is Passover Celebrated?

Passover is celebrated by Jewish people, who remember how the Israelite people were freed from slavery by Moses over 3000 years ago. The story of Passover is in the **Torah**, the Jewish holy book.

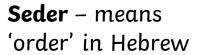


Passover is celebrated for seven or eight days.

On the evening before Passover begins, there is a special service called a **Seder**.

At the Seder meal there is a special **Seder plate** on the table.

Click on the words in bold to find out more.





Seder plate – an important part of the Seder meal, this plate has five sections to hold some special Seder foods.

Beitzah – a roasted, hard-boiled egg that represents sacrifice but also new life

Karpas – a fresh green vegetable, often parsley, which symbolises the freshness of spring

Salt water – symbolizes the tears and sweat of enslavement

Maror and chazeret –

Two types of bitter herbs, reminding people of the bitterness of slavery

> **Zeroa** – A roasted lamb or chicken bone to symbolises offerings made to God

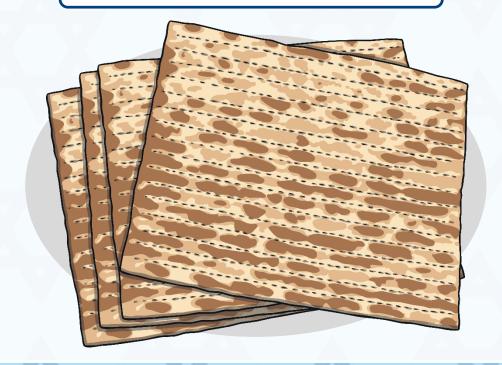
Charoset – a mixture of ground apples, nuts, ginger, cinnamon and wine, which symbolises the mortar used by the Israelites when they were forced to make bricks

At the Seder meal, three **matzot** breads are placed on top of each other. The middle matzah is broken and the biggest piece is hidden. Children hunt for the matzah and to win a prize.

Matzot – an unleavened bread

Click on the words in bold to find out more.





Four small glasses of wine are drunk. People have different ideas about what this symbolizes.

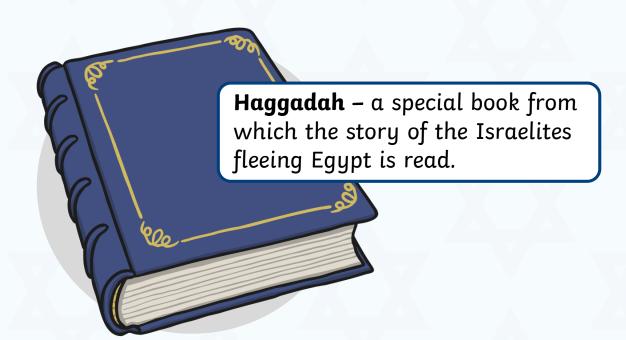
Some people think that the wine is a symbol of freedom. They believe that the four cups represent four promises made by God to save and protect the Israelites.



The story of how the Israelites fled from Egypt is retold at Passover. It is read from a book called the **Haggadah**.

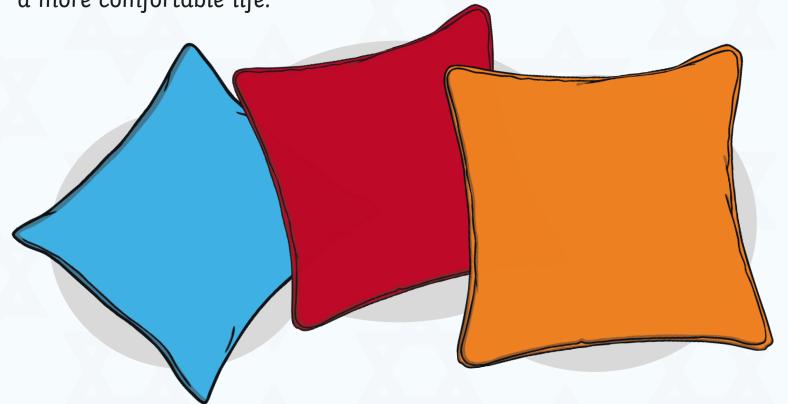
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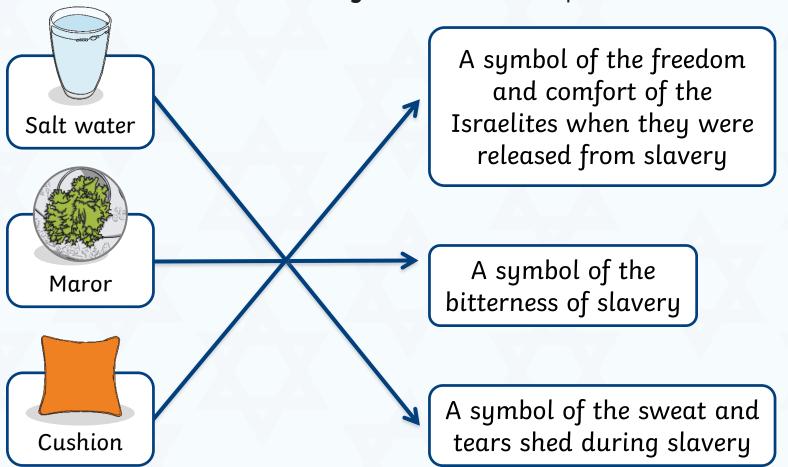
Everyone at the Seder has a cushion to lean on.

This is to remind them that the Israelites were freed from slavery to live a more comfortable life.



Try It!

Match the Pesach **symbols** to the descriptions.



Glossary

Haggadah – a special book from which the story of the Israelites fleeing Egypt is read

Hebrew – an ancient language that is the official language of

Israel

Jewish – a person whose religion is Judaism

Judaism - one of the world's oldest religions

Maror - a bitter herb eaten as part of the Seder meal

Matzot -an unleavened bread

Seder - means 'order' in Hebrew.

Seder plate – an important part of the Seder meal, this plate has five sections to hold some special Seder foods

Symbol – something that represents or reminds you of something else

Torah – Jewish holy book

