

Special Festivals



WALT

Name the special Jewish festivals.

Success Criteria

- I can explain what Passover celebrates and play a game played at Passover.
- I can show how a Jewish family prepares for Shabbat through drama.

Jewish Festivals

Jewish festivals are based around important events in Jewish history.

The most important Jewish festivals are:



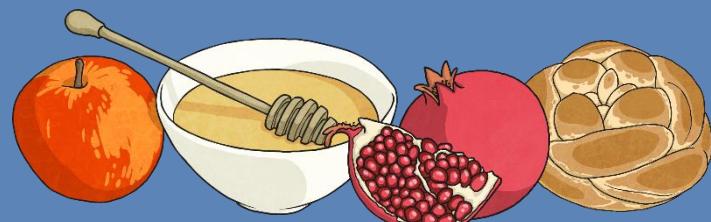
Yom Kippur



Hanukkah



Pesach (Passover)



Rosh Hashanah (the New Year)

Jewish Festivals

Yom Kippur

Yom Kippur (the Day of Atonement) is 10 days after Rosh Hashanah. It is a day where Jews reflect on their last year and ask for forgiveness from God. They also fast for 25 hours.



Jewish Festivals

Hanukkah

Hanukkah (the Festival of Lights) is about remembering 2500 years ago when Antiochus (a Syrian king) tried to make the Jewish people worship Greek gods. In the Jewish temple, a statue of Antiochus was put up and the Jews were told to bow down to him. The Jews refused as the Ten Commandments tell Jews to worship God only. A three year war followed and the temple was destroyed. The Jews cleaned and repaired the temple and rededicated it to God by lighting the lamp (Menorah). Jews celebrate now by lighting one candle on the Hanukiah each day.



Jewish Festivals

Pesach (Passover)

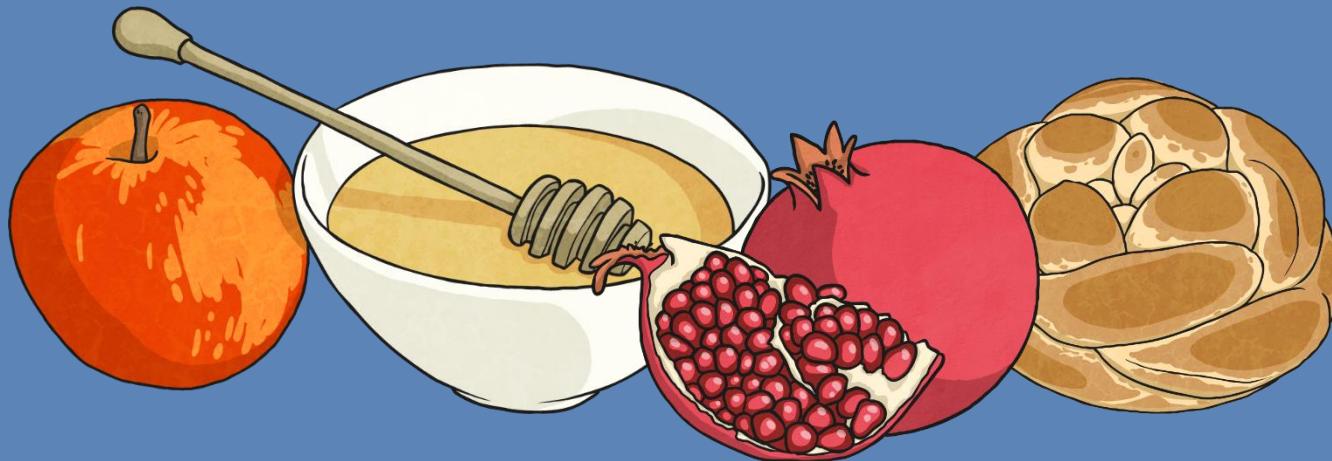
Passover is when Jews remember how the people of Israel left slavery behind them when they were led out of Egypt by Moses over 3000 years ago.



Jewish Festivals

Rosh Hashanah (New Year)

The Jewish New Year celebrates the world being created and lasts for two days. At this time, Jews believe God looks over their year and weighs up the good deeds against their bad deeds to decide what their next year will be like.



Shabbat

- Shabbat is the holy day for Jews. It starts at sundown on Friday and lasts until sundown on Saturday.
- Jews celebrate Shabbat together as a family. They start by blessing the Shabbat candles, wine and bread.
- Jews have a Shabbat meal which has special foods, songs, readings and prayers.

Task 1: write down how families prepare for Shabbat.



Passover

When the Israelites were trapped as slaves, Moses went to see Pharaoh many times to ask for the Israelites to be released. Each time Pharaoh refused. Moses told Pharaoh that God would send terrible plagues on Egypt if Pharaoh did not let them go. The ten plagues were: blood, frogs, gnats, flies, blight of the livestock, boils, hail, locusts, darkness and the death of the first-born. The final plague was the death of the first-born. God told Moses that the Israelites should mark their doorposts with lamb's blood so that God would 'pass over' their houses and make sure they were not affected by this plague. This is why the festival is called Passover.



Celebrating Passover

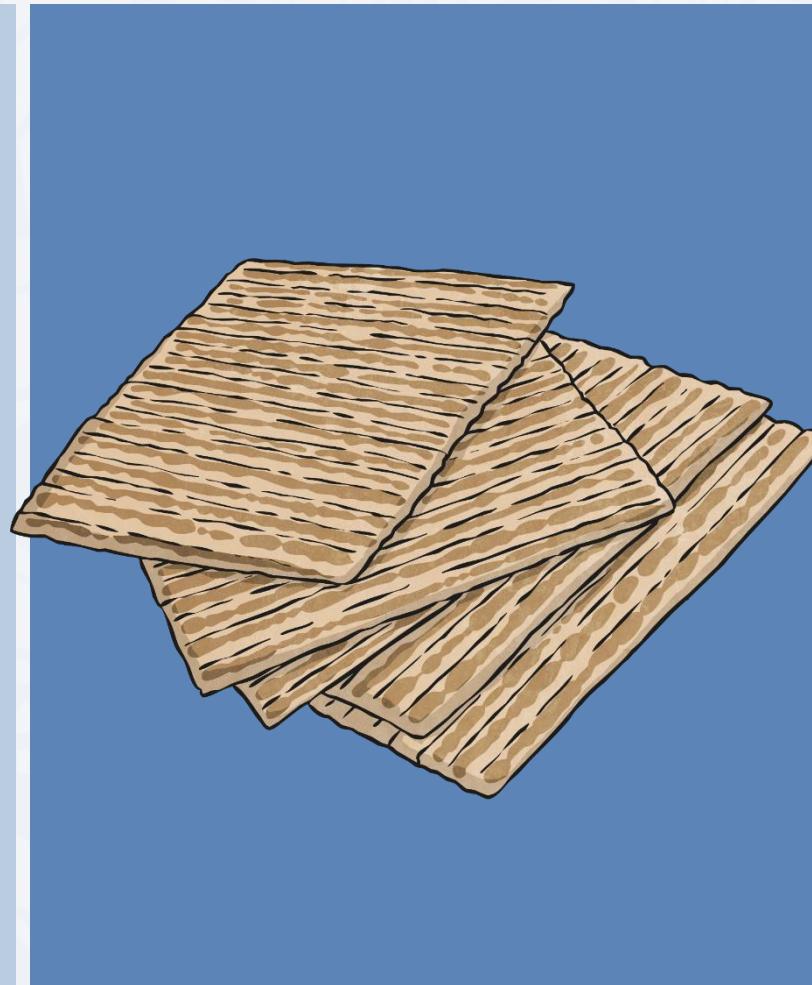
Passover is a festival to celebrate the escaping of the Israelites from slavery in Egypt, the giving of the Ten Commandments and the journey of the Israelites to Israel. The story of the escape from slavery in Egypt is called the Hagaddah. The Hagaddah is read at Passover during the special meal.



Matzot

This is unleavened bread called Matzot. Jews eat this type of bread at Passover to remind them of Moses leading the Israelites out of slavery after Pharaoh's own 'first born' was struck by the final plague. They had to leave in such a hurry that the bread they were baking didn't have time to rise. Matzot represents this bread.

We are now going to play a game that happens at Passover. We will break the middle loaf and then hide the biggest piece. Whoever finds the biggest piece will win a prize!



The Seder Plate

Beitzah (an egg) represents the holiday offering brought in the days of the Holy Temple.

Karpas (a small slice of onion, boiled potato or sprigs of parsley) represents the salty tears cried by the slaves.

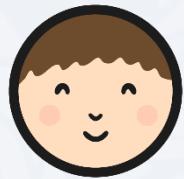
Chazeret (lettuce) represents the bitterness of slavery.



Zeroah (a shank bone) represents the lamb that was sacrificed the night before the escape from slavery (the Exodus).

Maror (horseradish root) represents the suffering and bitterness of the lives of slaves in Egypt.

Charoset (a mixture of apples, nuts and wine) represents the mortar and brick made by the Jews when they worked for Pharaoh.

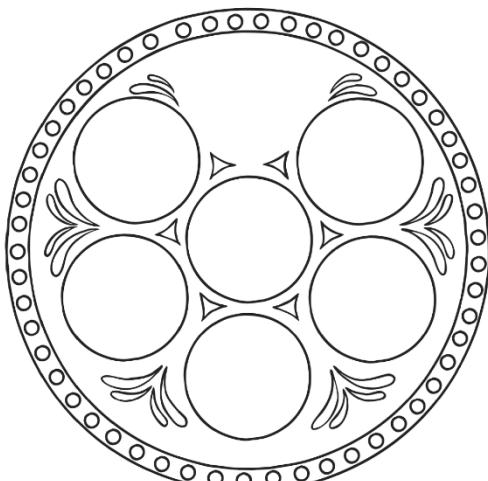


Design

Your task is now to design your own food plate. Include food items that would remind you of home if you were in another country.

Seder Plate

On the plate below, draw food that you would eat if you had gone to another country. Remember to choose food that would remind you of home.



Seder Plate

On the plate below, draw food that you would eat if you had gone to another country. Remember to choose food that would remind you of home. Can you explain next to each food why it would remind you of home?

