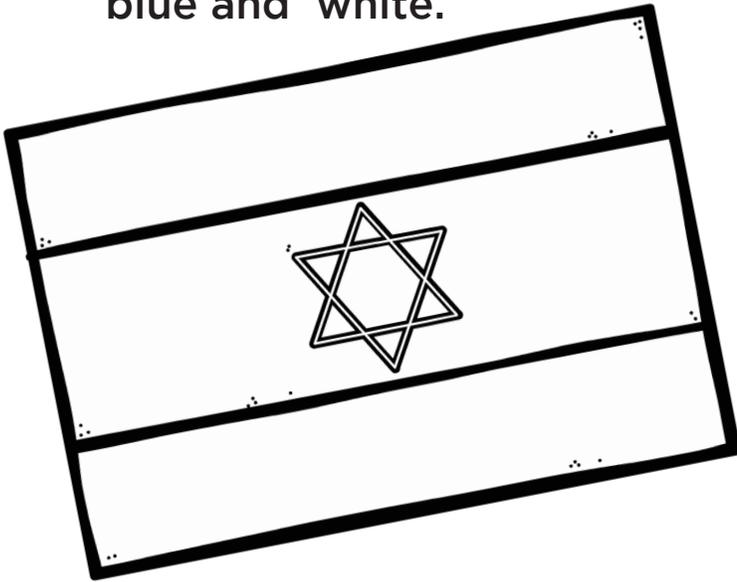


# All About ISRAEL

Color the Israeli flag  
blue and white.



Israel is a country located in the Middle East. Use an atlas to help you answer the questions. When you are done, color the map, and mark the capital with a star.

The capital of Israel is:

\_\_\_\_\_

Which languages are spoken in Israel?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Which religions are common in Israel?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

How many people live in Israel?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



# Hanukkah

The Festival of Lights

Hanukkah is a Jewish holiday that celebrates two miracles that happened long ago in a country called Judea (now known as Israel). Back then the Jewish people who lived in Judea were under the rule of an evil king who refused to let them practice their religion. The evil king even destroyed their holy temple in Jerusalem by covering it with graffiti, and letting animals live inside it, which destroyed all the sacred oil the Jews had prepared.

A group of young men known as Maccabees decided to fight the evil king in order to have the freedom to follow any religion they chose. The first miracle was that even though there were very few Maccabees, they were able to win and kick the evil king's soldiers out of Jerusalem.

The second miracle happened when they went back into their holy temple. The Jewish people wanted to light the menorah, which is the holy candelabra, but they only found enough sacred oil to burn for one day. Back then, it took eight days to make more oil. They decided to light the menorah anyway and somehow the oil lasted for eight days instead of just one.

The word Hanukkah means "rededication", because it celebrates the Jewish people rededicating their holy temple and the miracles that helped make it happen.

How would you feel if you had to hide your religion or some other important part of who you are?

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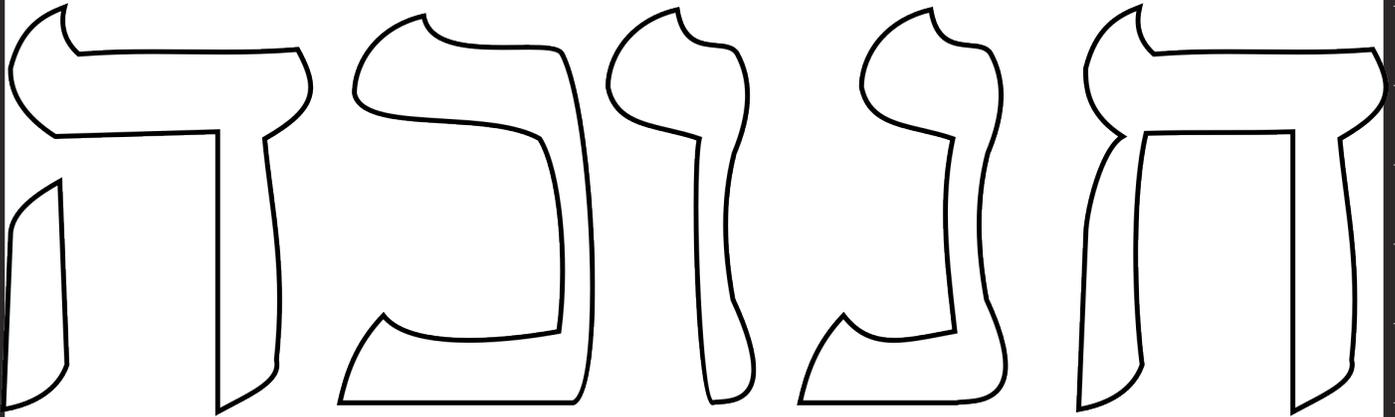
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# Dreidel Dreidel

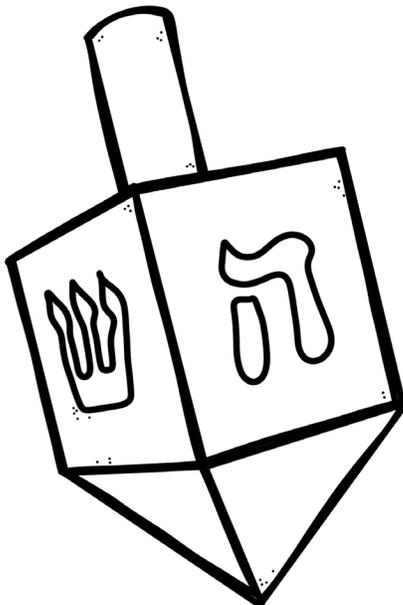


Back in the time of the Maccabees, Jews had to pray and practice their religion in secret. If the evil king's soldiers came around, the Jews needed a reason to be gathered, so they would hide their prayer books and take out spinning tops. These spinning tops are called Dreidels. The Dreidel game is still played by Jewish children during the celebration of Hanukkah.

The four symbols on the sides of the dreidel are Hebrew letters. The letters are an acronym: Nun, Gimmel, Hay, and Shin, for the sentence (transliterated from Hebrew) Nes Gadol Haya Sham. The sentence means "A Great Miracle Happened There."

**Fun Fact:** Dreidels in Israel have the letter Pay instead of Shin, because there the sentences means "A Great Miracle Happened Here", since the story of Hanukkah took place in what is now Israel.

In order to play, you need some pennies, raisins, M&Ms or something similar. Each player gets an equal amount of the pennies. The first player spins the dreidel. Depending on which side the dreidel lands on, one of four things happens:



 Nun = Nothing (The player doesn't get any pennies from the pot)

 Gimmel = You Win (The player receives the entire pot of pennies)

 Hay = Half (The player receives half of the pot of pennies)

 Shin = Put One In (The player has to place one of their own pennies into the pot)

# Make Latkes

Latkes are a traditional Hanukkah food. They are cooked in oil, and the story says that the Maccabees came through town on their way to battle, and the families in the village were able to quickly mix up a batch for the soldiers to eat. The food helped make them strong, and they won the battle!

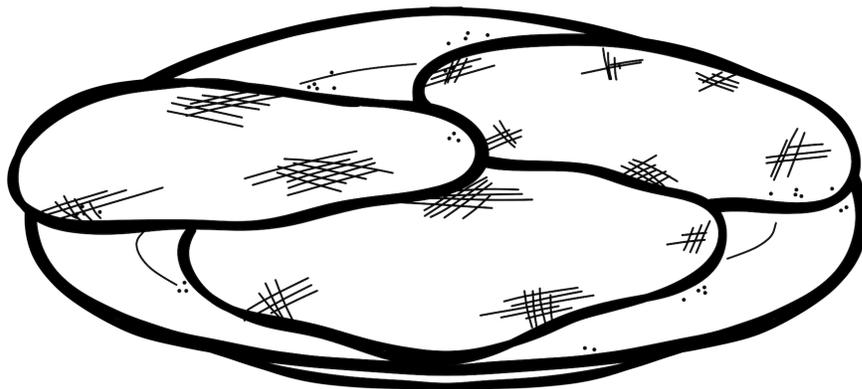
## Ingredients,

Two Potatoes  
1/2 an Onion  
2 TBSP Flour  
2 Eggs  
1/2 TSP Salt  
1/4 TSP Pepper  
Oil for Frying

## Instructions,

1. Clean the potatoes. Grate them into a large bowl.
2. Peel the onion. Grate it into the same bowl.
3. Add the flour, eggs, salt and pepper. Mix it all up!
4. Heat the oil in a frying pan.
5. Drop the potato mixture into the pan using a tablespoon scoop.
6. Flatten each latke with a spoon while it cooks.
7. Turn the latkes in the pan, browning each side
8. Remove from the pan and let them cool on a paper towel.
9. Serve warm with a dollop of apple sauce.

\* Kids, hot oil is very dangerous. Cook Latkes with Mom or Dad's help!\*



# The Menorah

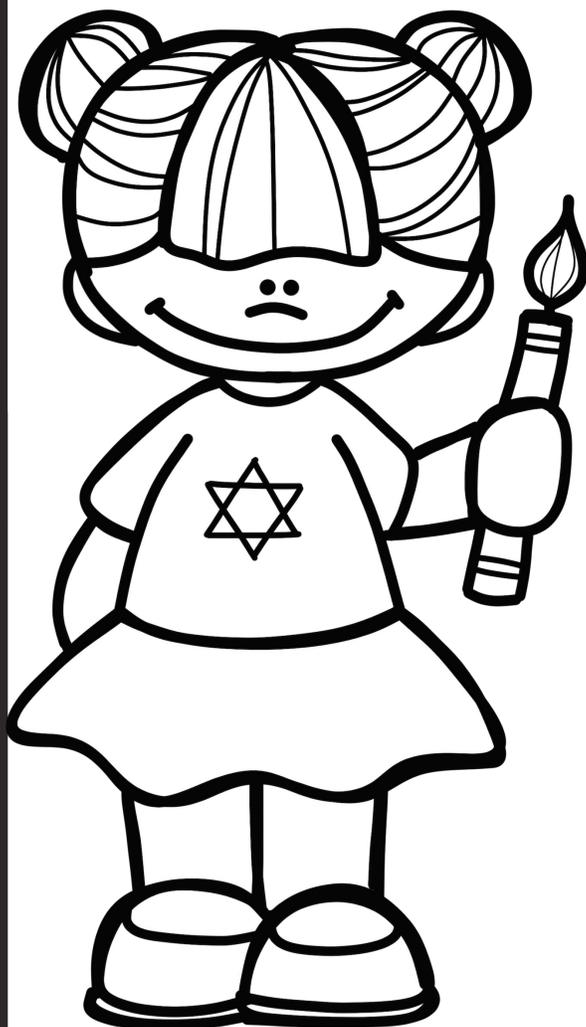
Families light the menorah right after sunset on each of the eight Hanukkah nights, except for on Friday night, when the candle is lit before sunset. Many families keep the menorah in the window to spread the Hanukkah light, so others can see it and remember God's miracles.

Before the candles are lit, families say a special prayer. On the first night, they recite three blessings in Hebrew. On the other nights, they recite two blessings.

A special candle, called the Shamesh Candle is used to light the Hanukkah candles. It is placed higher than the other eight candles. The candles are then lit from the left to the right, with one candle lit the first night, two on the second, and so on.

Color the menorah:

Color the Shamesh candle a different color than the others, and color the remaining candles from left to right.



## Hanukkah Words

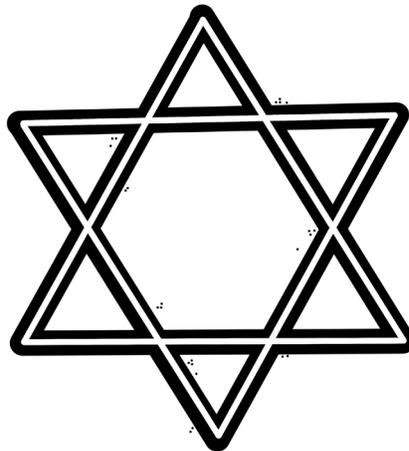
**Dreidel** - A spinning top used by ancient Maccabees to hide their religious practice and now used by children to play a fun game.

**Hannukiyah** - Also known as a menorah, a Hannukiyah is a candelabra that has eight branches and an additional holder for a ninth candle. One candle is added for each night of Hanukkah and the additional candle helps light the others.

**Latke** - A potato pancake fried in oil. Latkes are a traditional food eaten on Hanukkah, because it is fried in oil (just like the sacred oil from the holy temple).

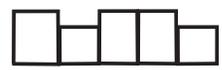
**Suffganiyah** - Jelly donuts are another traditional Hanukkah food since they are fried in oil.

**Gelt** - Commonly refers to chocolate money (though it could mean real money too).

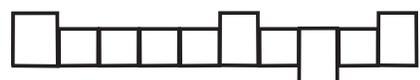


 - A spinning top

 - Commonly refers to chocolate money

 - A potato pancake fried in oil.

 - Also called jelly donuts.

 - Also known as a Menorah