

RE Knowledge Organiser

Judaism

Key Fundamentals

Jewish Beliefs

- Jewish people believe that there is only one G-d and that they have an agreement with G-d, called a covenant whereby they follow G-d's rules to say thank you for being looked after.
- Judaism started nearly 4,000 years ago.
- Jewish people believe that a man called **Abraham** was the first person to make a covenant with G-d.
- Moses is another key person within the Jewish religion.

Jewish Holy Book

- The Jewish holy book is called the Torah.
- The Torah contains five books.
 These 5 books are also at the start of the Christian Bible, which Christians call the Old Testament.
- The Torah contains 613 different rules which Jewish people try to follow. These are called mitzyahs.
- The Torah is written in Hebrew.
- As a mark of respect, the Torah is not touched directly by hand.



Jewish Worship



- Jewish people worship in a synagogue.
- The main service takes place on a Saturday.—the Sabbath.
- The Rabbi leads services in the synagogue. Rabbi means 'teacher' in Hebrew.

Symbols



 The Star of David is a symbol which is largely used to represent Judaism.

Key Vocabulary	
Command ments	Rules given by <i>G</i> _d.
Covenant	A promise made to obey G-d's.
Hebrew	The language of the holy texts
Mitzvah	The rules in the holy book that people try to live by—good deeds,
Moses	The name of a leader and teacher in Jewish history.
Rabbi	A teacher of the Jewish religion who is usually the leader of a Jewish synagogue.
Shofar	A large ram's horn which makes a long, loud sound.
Sukkah	A special hut built during the festival of sukkot.
Synagogue	The place people go to worship
Torah	The Jewish Holy book

G-d

Jewish people believe that it is wrong to delete or throw away documents which have G-d's name on them. Therefore, they will usually write it this way on things that are not going to be kept forever.

Key Jewish Festivals Rosh Hashanah—Jewish New Year

Rosh Hashanah—Jewish New Year Sukkot Hanukkah Passover



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Specific Topics

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Year 1—Autumn Topic

Why learning to do good deeds is important to Jewish people

We will learn that:

- Jewish people believe that it is important to carry out good deeds, which are called mitzvah. It helps people to feel together, Examples of mitzvah could be:
 - Helping someone in need
 - Giving money to the poor
- Jewish people may give money, called tzedakah. Pupils will spend time thinking about how they help others and why this is important.

Pupils will learn a traditional Jewish song, Tikkun Olam, about helping others.

Talk about at home

Many religions place importance on good deeds and helping others.

Talk about our school story; The Good Samaritan and how it reminds us to help others.

Year 1—Spring Topic

Why do Jewish people say blessings and prayers

We shall start by remembering what we already know about Judaism, including that:

 Jewish people believe good deeds are important. This is done through: HELPING others in need, WELCOMING others, GIVING money to help other people and CARING for the world.

In this topic, we will learn that:

- Jewish people say prayers and blessings to G-d because it reminds them how great G-d is. They will say thank you to G-d for all he provides.
- Jewish people have a day of rest each week called Shabbat.
 This will be marked in a number of ways, with people praying at both home and the synagogue. Havdalah is the end of Shabbat.

Talk about at home

Shabbat is the day when Jewish people rest and spend time praying and reflecting. This happens every week and is a time for stillness and calm.

What do you do to have stillness and calm in your life?

Year 1—Summer Topic

Why is the torah such a joy for the Jewish community?

We shall start by remembering what we already know about Judaism, including that:

- Jewish people believe good deeds like helping others are important.
- Jewish people say prayers and blessings to G-d, including on Shabbat, which is a day of rest.

In this topic, we will learn that:

- Jewish people believe that the Torah is a very important book, so important, that when they get to the end, they start to read it all over again.
- The Torah was given to the Jewish people from G-d and contains rules from G-d on how we should live.
- The Torah should be treated with respect.
- Mezuzahs are decorative cases fixed to the entrance of a
 Jewish home containing some of the Torah which reminds people
 to love G-d and follow his commandments.

Talk about at home

What is the most important thing that you own?

How do you keep it special?

Is there a book or text that is very important to you or people in your families?



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Specific Topics



Year 2—Autumn Topic

Why do Jewish families talk about repentance at New Year?

We shall start by remembering what we already know about Judaism, including that:

- Jewish people believe good deeds like helping others are important.
- Jewish people say prayers and blessings to G-d.
- Shabbat is a day of rest.

In this topic, we will learn:

- The meaning of the term 'Repentance'.
- Jewish people believe that G-d weighs the good and bad things we have done at New Year and gives people a chance to put things right. G-d forgives those who **repent**.
- Rosh Hashannah is the start of a period of 10 days, leading to Jewish New Year 'Yom Kippur'. The shofar is a horn blown at Rosh Hashannah to call people to think about the wrong things that that have done and to put them right.
- What happens in the synagogue at New Year—Yom Kipper, which takes place in September or October.
- The story of Jonah.

Talk about at home

We all do things that we regret. Talk about things that you have done that you regret.

How did you 'repent' and make it better?



Year 4—Autumn Topic

What symbols and stories help Jewish people remember their covenant with G-d?

We shall start by remembering what we already know about Judaism, including that:

- Jewish people believe good deeds like helping others are important.
- Jewish people say prayers and blessings to G-d.
- Shabbat is a day of rest.
- At New Year G-d gives people a chance to put things right.
- The Torah is an important book that is well looked after.

In this topic, we will learn:

- The meaning of the term covenant—a promise
- Jewish people believe that the rainbow is a sign of the first covenant with G-d.
- Abraham was called into a covenant with G-d.
- The Exodus was G-d's rescue of the Jewish nation from Egyptian slavery.
- G-d summoned the Jewish people to Mount Sinai to renew their Covenant with them.
- G-d's covenant is remembered at Passover.
- "This is the sign of the covenant which I make between me and you and every living creature." -Genesis 9:12



Talk about at home

Jewish people believe that G-d showed Noah a rainbow to remind him of his promise.

Do you know any other stories where a sign or symbol was used to remind someone of something?

Passover is a festival which celebrates Jewish people being free, having previously been enslaved in ancient Egypt. What do you know about people being enslaved?