

Hanukkah: The Festival of Lights

Join Nova the Owl as we discover the glowing traditions of the Festival of Lights!

- Hanukkah is celebrated for eight nights to remember the miracle of a single day's worth of oil lasting for eight full days.
- A special nine-branched candelabra called a Hanukkiah is used, with one candle lit each night until all eight are shining brightly.
- Families often enjoy delicious fried foods, such as potato latkes and jelly doughnuts, to symbolise the importance of the oil in the ancient story.
- Children play a traditional game using a four-sided spinning top called a dreidel, which features Hebrew letters on each side.
- During the celebrations, it is common to give children chocolate coins wrapped in gold or silver foil, known as gelt.

Did you know? Did you know? The word 'Hanukkah' actually means 'dedication' in Hebrew! It commemorates the rededication of the Second Temple in Jerusalem after the Maccabees fought for their religious freedom.

Key vocabulary: Menorah · Hanukkiah · Dreidel · Maccabees · Miracle · Gelt